

# Fundraising Appeal

Can you help reinvigorate our fundraising efforts? To continue to deliver our much-needed and much-valued Summer Schools and Information Days, we need to raise money to support them.

The grant from the Parenting Fund has allowed DELTA to extend its services to families and deliver more than we ever have done before. This funding is now in the final stages and we want to build on the achievements we have made so far.

In order to do this, we are calling on all of our friends to support our efforts to raise £75,000. If all of our readers are able to make a small contribution or help by organising a fundraising event, we could be well on the way to achieving our target.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

**Have a World Cup party** - invite your friends round for the match and charge them an entry fee. You could even fine them for not wearing an England shirt!



**Get your school to have a non-uniform day** - you could suggest a theme for the day and charge people more who don't dress up.

**Approach local Rotary and Lions clubs** to see if they will help raise money.

**Organise a marathon sporting event** - maybe a 24-hour basketball or indoor hockey tournament.

**Organise a local sponsored walk or bike ride.**

**Take part in a DELTA fundraising event.**



Remember to find out about how the company you work for supports charity. Increasingly companies only support charities via employee recommendations or they might match the amount of sponsorship you raise for an event. Ask family and friends to do the same.

Send us your fundraising ideas and photos so that we can share them with everyone.

## It's never been easier!

A quick and easy way to increase DELTA's fundraising at the touch of a button.

Next time you order books and CDs from the Amazon website, try going through <http://buy.at/DELTA> or go via the special 'online shop' link on the DELTA website at [www.deafeducation.org.uk](http://www.deafeducation.org.uk)



We'll get commission on everything you order - why not look at the other retailers who do the same while you're there. There are some great offers for online shop users too.

Summer Schools for 2006

24th July - 27th July **Lancaster Pre-school and Primary**

29th July - 1st August **Winchester Pre-school**

\*Book your places now\*

# Feedback

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## Salisbury Talks

Dr Morag Clark was the guest speaker at the meetings for professionals and parents in Salisbury on the 28th and 29th of April. Since taking early retirement from the aural school where she was principal, Morag has been instrumental in setting up schools, centres and programmes for those wishing to use a natural aural approach in more than 12 different countries, including Turkey, Singapore, Canada, South Africa and Ecuador.

In her talks, Morag focussed on the many opportunities available for deaf children today and urged professionals and parents to maximise their use. Importance was placed on the necessity for professionals and parents to work in partnership to ensure that normal communication is maintained, alongside the use of the most appropriate and efficient amplification.

She stressed that input must be nothing but natural language, spoken at the natural rate of utterance. It is imperative that communication is via the ears and not the eyes! She commented that none of us remember how we acquired language, we weren't sat down and given language lessons! She reminded us that language is caught - not taught!

Morag's talks were pertinent and up-to-date. Her videoed illustrations from around the globe, many from poor, third world situations, clearly demonstrated sound aural practice with delightful interaction between parent and child, resulting in significant progress. They also showed that both aural and academic success can be achieved by profoundly deaf children using a natural aural approach, regardless of the availability of cochlear implants.

Morag's aim is for all children to be given the opportunity to reach their potential. Her dedication is evident and her enthusiasm infectious. Parents and professionals who attended the talks were inspired to ensure that, through a natural aural approach, each deaf child in their care is given the opportunity to reach their potential as a balanced, participating member of society. *ML*



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## Consultations and enquiries

DELTA strives to make a quick and sound response to local and national issues and arrange relevant consultations. Often, these issues can arise out of the blue, such as the recent request from Radio 4 to give an interview for their programme 'Learning to be Deaf'.

The interview was in response to a group of deaf adults who felt 'let down by mainstream oral education'. They wanted to convey that deaf children need signing schools and large signing resource bases. This was challenging and DELTA was able to respond with the support and experiences of our members.

Hampshire's consultation on the re-organisation of services and policy for children with a hearing impairment was as a result of a direct request from a DELTA member. A meeting was held in Winchester in April, where it was necessary to put forward the case for natural auralism and

challenge many of the assertions and claims made by local education and health services.

The Department of Health invited DELTA's participation in a national consultation on the Do Once and Share (DOAS) project. This project was commissioned by Connecting for Health and the purpose of the consultation was to look at and feed back on the care pathways formulated for Newborn Hearing Screening, Audiology, Cochlear Implants and Complex Needs.

DELTA is developing a strategic response to local and national issues such as local re-organisation of services for deaf children, the concerns regarding numbers and training of teachers of the deaf and the recently published report on informed choice, co-written by the NDCS and the University of Manchester. You, as members and volunteers, can help us by raising any issues and we welcome your support in this area. *MK*

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# Fundraising

## Bike Ride - Sunday 25th June



The brighter, warmer evenings are ideal for getting practice in, so why not get a small team organised and send your forms back. If you don't live in the South East you could always organise your own biking event.

The Fun Day at the finish is included, so you can bring the whole family and make a day of it.

Alternatively, if you could help out on the day please get in touch. We need help and support to help make the event a success. Registration is just £10 to secure your place, so give us a call on [0845 108 1437](tel:08451081437)

## 'Fun'draising!

Thank you to Westwood Timber & Fencing for their generous donation. A team of six staff took part in the Darlington 10km Fun Run and raised £200 for DELTA's funds.

If you're feeling inspired by the runners or know of anyone who is interested in helping to raise funds for DELTA in a similar way, ask them to drop us a line.

Thank you from the DELTA team!



## Running for DELTA

If you want to undertake more of a personal challenge, you could sign up for the world's biggest running event. The Great North Run takes place on Sunday 1st October and we still have places available.

There's plenty of time to train for the event which covers 13.1 miles between Newcastle and South Shields. Why not undertake to complete the event with a friend, family member or colleague?

For more information on how to run for DELTA, please contact Julia Gomm on: [0845 108 1437](tel:08451081437) or: [enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk)



## Fundraising for Food lovers!

Long-standing DELTA member, Bill Boyce, turned Antony Worrall Thompson recently to raise funds for his favourite cause.

Bill's wife and her friends formed the Princess Margaret's Dining Club and regularly sample the menus of local restaurants together. Bill and his friend John Grefe formed BJ's Bistro for one night only, to host a special evening of culinary delights for the dining club, with all proceeds being donated to DELTA's funds.

With the help of 'Head Waiter and General Dogsbody' John, Bill turned master chef for the evening, serving a prawn cocktail for starters and home-made crème brûlée for dessert. Using his own secret recipe, the main course was the event's star attraction - BJ's Special Chicken served with seasonal vegetables.

The success of the evening was measured by the £135 raised for DELTA, which included a contribution from Bill's two profoundly deaf daughters, Sacha and Nicole. Bill first got involved with DELTA at Summer School 13 years ago and he has helped out ever since.

BJ's Bistro and the Princess Margaret's Dining Club hope to hold similar events in the future to raise even more money for DELTA. If any of you want to take a page out of Bill's recipe book and hold a similar event, we'd love to hear from you.

We look forward to hearing your suggestions and would like to thank Bill and his friends for the generous donation.



# Official Opening

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## The Grand Unveiling

On Saturday March 4th 2006, DELTA symbolically marched forth, at the official opening of the new headquarters in Peterborough. This marked the turning of a new page in DELTA's history, with visitors from all over the UK and from the United States.

To open the proceedings, guest speaker Dr K Todd Houston unveiled the plaque, naming The Con Powell Centre. Dr Houston is the CEO of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, based in Washington DC. This was his first trip to the UK and Dr Keith Gladstone of DELTA presented him with a suitably English book - tracing the footsteps of Wainwright. Dr Houston also gave a gift to DELTA - a beautifully framed painting of the Volta Bureau, home of the Association.



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Attendees on the day included DELTA Trustees, staff - past and present, professionals in the field of childhood deafness and several YDAG members.

Con Powell's family attended the opening and were touched by the accolade to the hard work and achievements of their father. DELTA has made a permanent tribute to Con through the naming of the premises and his presence will continue to influence future work.

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## The Presentations

Dr Houston delivered the first presentation of four, on the international case for auditory aural education today. Speaking passionately about the auditory aural approach, Dr Houston explained how recent statistics show that early intervention has dramatically increased the numbers of deaf children using an aural communication method.



Sue Lewis, Chair of DELTA, followed Dr Houston's presentation with a UK comparison, explaining how the past commitment of individuals allows the DELTA of today to share its vision with society. Sue also highlighted some common myths about the natural aural approach and the challenges we now face as times have changed.

Presentations followed from Andrew Broughton, Head of Sensory Inclusion Service for Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire County Council and Mary Kean, Head of Policy at DELTA. Andrew defined the natural aural philosophy, demonstrating how it is successful in his area and how we can make it happen in other areas. Mary concluded with challenges and issues in achieving this reality.

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# March 4th 2006

a growing charity - marching forth on March 4th



Don't forget to share your views and opinions - after all, this is YOUR newsletter!  
Contact DELTA with any interesting snippets of information, however small.

**WRITE** to DELTA, The Con Powell Centre, 3 Forder Way,  
Cygnet Park, Peterborough, PE7 8GX

**EMAIL** at [enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk)

**PHONE** on 0845 108 1437

# Information

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## A visit to the Children's Commissioner

Two young DELTA members from Shropshire were chosen to go to Westminster on 9th February, to meet the Children's Commissioner, Professor Al Aynsley-Green. Kate Turner and Katie Edwards, who both have a profound hearing loss, were invited to represent aural deaf children in the UK and meet the commissioner to talk about why it is important for them to be able to listen and speak.

Children's Commissioners act as independent watchdogs, ensuring that children are protected from harm and defending their rights and interests. It is important that children have access to an effective complaints system and independent advocacy, to help them express their views and concerns.

Katie Edwards was 18 months old when her parents were told she was profoundly deaf. Katie says, *"They didn't know anything about being deaf but we have a brilliant hearing impaired service in Shropshire who look after me. My mum and dad wouldn't have known*

*what to do if this service wasn't available - everyone should have the same access"*.

Katie used to wear hearing aids and had a cochlear implant when she was 11. She says, *"I'm glad my parents wanted me to talk because I can go to a normal school like other children. I can hear the phone ringing but my dad can't!"* Katie loves sport and plays football for Shawbury United Junior Bells under-14s.

Kate Turner, 18, first had hearing aids when she was 21 months old. She went to a specialist nursery before attending a mainstream primary school. When she was 12, she decided she would like a cochlear implant and it has made a big difference to her listening skills.

Kate has since achieved five GCSEs at A\*-C grade and has obtained a post as an Assistant Medical Technical Officer. She is also pleased that her parents chose the aural route, as it has enabled her to attend local schools and, as she says, "live a normal life".

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## Info at your fingertips

I CAN, a charity that helps children communicate, has just launched two exciting new developments to their *Talking Point* website. The site will be the quickest single route for parents to access comprehensive and up-to-date information and resources about their child's disability and communication development.

*Parent Point* and *Talking Links* have been developed in conjunction with partners in the statutory, private and voluntary sectors. They were both launched on May 16th 2006.

Funded by the DfES Parenting Fund, *Parent Point* provides families with knowledge, ideas and resources to support their child's communication disability. Its content was developed in partnership with ten organisations all working in the fields of children's disability, welfare and development. Available resources include an interactive

message board, downloadable songs and nursery rhymes, factsheets in seven languages and information from other charities:

[www.talkingpoint.org.uk/parentpoint](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk/parentpoint)

*Talking Links* is a unique database that enables parents to search by postcode for information about local speech and language, education and voluntary sector services to support them:

[www.talkingpoint.org.uk/talkinglinks](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk/talkinglinks)

Virginia Beardshaw, Chief Executive of I CAN said, *"Parent Point* and *Talking Links* are prime examples of how the voluntary, private and statutory sectors can pool their expertise, work well together and build each other's capacity to fulfil the urgent needs of the 1.2 million families of children with a communication disability".

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# In the Regions

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## Regional Meetings

We have now successfully re-established three regions, thanks to the Parenting Fund grant. The first was Yorkshire/Humberside at the beginning of the year, headed up by Celia McAllister, who is a retired Educational Audiologist. After holding a planning meeting, a committee was formed; they arranged and held a Family Information Day in Hull.

This work in the North East has been followed up with planning meetings in the East Midlands, headed up by Maria Jane, who is a Teacher of the Deaf and the North West, headed up by Trish Cope, who is an Educational Audiologist.

In each region, we now have a committee made up of teachers, parents and youngsters. All are committed to DELTA and want to help provide information and social events in their region. Both the East Midlands and North West regions are holding Family Information Days on Saturday 10th June.

The East Midlands Family Information Day is to be held at Conkers Park, Ashby de la Zouch. There will be workshops in the morning for the parents, whilst the children are entertained within the park. This will be followed by a picnic lunch and then the families will have time to explore the park or talk to each other and the professionals present on the day.

The North West Family Information Day is to be held at Thomasson Memorial School, Bolton. There will also be workshops in the morning, whilst the children are looked after in a crèche, followed by a picnic lunch. The afternoon will welcome an entertainer for the children, allowing the parents time to talk to each other and the professionals present.

For more information about either event, please contact Wendy Adderley at:

[wendy.adderley@deafeducation.org.uk](mailto:wendy.adderley@deafeducation.org.uk)

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## Work in Wales

### Neath Info Day

Another successful Family Information Day was held on the 25th February, thanks to the Welsh Millennium Fund. The venue was the hearing impaired unit at Catwg Primary School in Cadoxton, Neath.

Despite the inclement weather, eleven families attended and there were 16 children in the crèche - their ages ranging from 2-11 years - along with seven willing helpers.

The day's professional speakers were Denise Inger, a Statementing specialist at SNAP, Mary Kean, DELTA's Head of Policy and Lynn Hounsom, DELTA's Regional Co-ordinator in Wales. One family said the day, "Provided a good understanding of 'Parent Power'".

### Tenby Family Weekend

On Friday 12th May, 13 families (including 28 children) and 12 helpers descended upon Kiln Caravan Park in Tenby for an information weekend.

An ideal venue, the park has its own indoor swimming pool, kids clubs and one of the best

sandy beaches in Wales just a five minute walk away.

Apart from the Friday night 'monsoon', the weather mostly stayed fine and the children were able to play outside. For the parents, two workshops were run at the same time, due to the space available.

The weekend was set out slightly different than usual, in that 'dads' and 'mums' sessions were run separately. This meant that each parent was also able to spend time with their child throughout the day, as well as leaving time for question and answer sessions with the professionals and a group of YDAGs.

Sunday saw the parents coming together to share their experiences and socialise, which is an integral part of family weekends. The weekend was summed up by one parent, "Couldn't have asked for more, except time!"

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the weekend - without you all, these type of events would not exist. We are always short of volunteers, so if you can offer any time at all, please contact:

[wendy.adderley@deafeducation.org.uk](mailto:wendy.adderley@deafeducation.org.uk)

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# Notice Board

For all you budding artists out there (and for those who just enjoy a challenge) don't forget DELTA's Design a Christmas Card competition.



## A little reminder...

The theme is **HAPPY AURAL CHRISTMAS**

DELTA will select four winning designs

Each winner will receive a prize and a framed copy of their design

Winning designs will be sold as cards to raise funds for DELTA

Encourage your class at school to have a go!

Closing Date  
for entries is  
**14th July**  
**2006**  
Happy  
Drawing!

Please refer to CHAT 18 for rules or phone DELTA on **0845 108 1437**

## STOP PRESS...!

\* Since the last edition of CHAT, the DELTA Family Music Day at Mary Hare has been rescheduled to **Saturday 2nd September 2006**. We apologise for any inconvenience and look forward to seeing you all there!

\* DELTA is pleased to welcome a new Office Manager to the team. Michelle Thomson will be working mornings from Monday 5th June.

# Diary dates

31st May-3rd Jun	NHS 2006 Conference (Como Lake, Italy)
10th June	DELTA Info/Social Day (East Midlands)
10th June	DELTA Info/Social Day (North West)
16th June	NDCS Annual Conference (Birmingham)
23rd-27th June	AG Bell 2006 Convention (Pittsburgh, USA)
25th June	DELTA Bike Ride (Reigate-Brighton)
24th-27th July	DELTA Summer School (Lancaster)
29th Jul-1st Aug	DELTA Summer School (Winchester)
2nd Sept	DELTA Family Music Day (Mary Hare)
23rd Sept	DELTA Fun Day (Beechenhurst)
1st Oct	Great North Run
6th-8th Oct	DELTA Secondary Weekend (Northampton)

## Find out more

DELTA depends on its members and friends in its mission to help deaf children throughout the UK. We are very grateful to the large number of people who have given their time and used their abilities to help us.

As our work expands, there will be new and exciting opportunities for anyone who wishes to offer their help.

To find out more or become involved in any aspect of DELTA's work then please contact Dr Keith Gladstone at [enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk)