

To: New (0)
From: Chattering (Enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk / Standard)
Subject: Chattering November 2009

Chattering

November 2009



Dear Reader,

Within a month, Autumn is well and truly here, showing off wonderful colour. Towns and cities still boast colourful plant displays, whilst above, Christmas decorations are starting to be put in place.

DELTA has celebrated 25 years of Summer Schools in great style, and post permitting, is still receiving hard won donations from our wonderful supporters. We too are gearing up for Christmas, with Seasonal Merchandise, Raffles and Events.

As we are using e-mail, Chattering and our website to advertise our events, this has been a great help in reducing our costs. We are also aware that many of our readers do not have computers or internet access, or do not have access to their PC as they are dominated by their children. If you would like a printed copy posted, then please let the office know and we will print and send you a copy in the post.

This months edition starts off with some memories of warmer, sunnier days.

The Chattering Headlines

Beechenhurst 2009

The Great North Swim

**25 years of Summer School Celebrations
Stoneleigh, Warwickshire**

Christmas 2009 Grand Draw Tickets

Christmas Merchandise

Forthcoming events

Personal Ads

(Always wanted - as is your input)



Beechenhurst 2009

We just wanted to take the opportunity to thank DELTA once again for a fantastic day out at Beechenhurst in the Forest of Dean.

Ever since our son Sam was diagnosed as profoundly deaf (just over 6 years ago), DELTA has been a blessing in the care and advice they have provided our family. And that word 'family' is how we see DELTA, as each and every individual and the time and effort they take to help you normally only comes from your own family.



So its a crying shame to see such events so massively undersubscribed ! On the day there were 7 families but having talked to Lynn Hounsome the effervescent regional coordinator for DELTA South Wales who organises this event each year, over 60 families had been invited!

It would be great to find out why so few attended. We've been every year so far and whilst we love seeing friends who we have made over the years through DELTA, we yearn to be able to help others like us who are maybe facing certain situations for the first time. It was at Beechenhurst that we had the chance to exchange stories of our trials and tribulations of gearing up to fight an appeal to get Sam into the right school. It was at Beechenhurst where we learnt of other's difficulties in getting the right support - and were able to offer our experience.

With a network like DELTA operating and bringing people with similar issues together there is no better way of keeping abreast of what's to come for our deaf children.

In addition to the support offered by DELTA the simple act of meeting families who are going through exactly the same experience forms strong bonds. That's been the case between ourselves and the Colemans who we see maybe 2 or 3 times a year but who have become very good friends. To see our two boys, Sam and Harry go off into the woods to build a shelter together at Beechenhurst you'd think they were next door neighbours! And when it came to leaving at the end of the day this year I had to drag Sam out of Harry's car as he'd decided he was going home with them!



So you're probably thinking whilst reading this that Beechenhurst is just a social for a select number of people but you'd be very wrong. This year, as last, we had the South Wales archery people there providing hands on tuition.

Everyone from the youngest child up to the oldest adult could take part. With that, the quiz expertly organised by Megan Hounsome, Lynn's daughter, a raffle, face-painting, and many other games for the kids the day was jam packed. Of course with all that activity the barbeque was greatly appreciated and I for one didn't need feeding that night!

I could understand a low turnout if it had been bucketing with rain but this year, as last and the year before we had glorious sunshine - so much so that my youngest Lily (8 months) came home with very rosy cheeks. I guess I forgot to put her sun cream on as I was too busy enjoying myself. And that's an important point to make. Sam is a very active little boy, some might say a little headstrong (being polite and politically correct) so we're always on alert wherever we go. At Beechenhurst it gets close to respite as we know that each and every family knows and appreciates the complexity of bringing up a deaf child - and as such everyone's on the lookout for each other's kids. It's just a superb day out.



So I'll end this little write up by saying come on everyone get yourself along to DELTA's events when you next hear of one. You've got another year to wait for Beechenhurst if you missed it. You'll have a great day out and you'll be surrounded by people eager to hear your stories and share the enormous amount of knowledge that between us all we have.

James

The Great North Swim



On a beautiful Sunday morning in September, 200 of us splashed our way into Lake Windermere, we were just a small part of the 6000 who took part in this years Great North Swim. Swimming one mile in open water seems a doddle from the balmy waters of your local swimming pool. But after many training sessions, wearing a wet suit and faced with Windermere at it's most beautiful. I felt very different, excited exhilarated and downright scared. Getting out of the water after 40 minutes I was almost disappointed, but with such a wonderful feeling of achievement.

Next years target, under 40 minutes, better get down to that local pool and start training.

Best wishes

Jenny Lees

Thank you Jenny – also for the marvellous £365 you raised. You know – a good number of our past and present board, have run, walked or climbed mountains for DELTA but a little bird tells me one may be joining you swimming next year!

Editor

25 years of Summer School Celebrations, at

Stoneleigh, Warwickshire



Just one word is needed to sum up the 25th anniversary celebrations of DELTA Summer Schools. Success! Among the hundred plus people who turned up, friends old and new, we all enjoyed ourselves. Organised events kept everyone happy – from face painting and a balloon race to indoor croquet and a great slide show of many DELTA events from the past. DELTA polo and t-shirts in a great range of colours were available to buy as well as other merchandise, delicious jams, jellies and chutneys.

Though it's always invidious to make distinctions on such days, the star event was surely the percussion workshops. Aply led by Brian Stone, experienced percussionist and friend of Sue Lewis, the children learned to play the Elephant's March while proud parents looked on. Then it was the turn of the youngsters and older adults who, within less than an hour, became proficient enough on xylophone, glockenspiel, cow bells, and a range of drums, to entertain us all with "Come on Baby, Light my Fire" and "Tequila". No small achievement for a group with hearing difficulties.



But if success was the watchword for the celebratory day itself, it is certainly the only word to describe the huge achievements of the Summer Schools. Ann Chapman who was involved right from the start, explained to those gathered the history of Summer School.

John and Edd then announced the raffle prizes and the start of the balloon race, many stayed for an excellent hot meal and a highly enjoyable barn dance!

Anne Woodward who attended this year's Southport Summer School with her husband Paul, and their two boys, Callum, who is severely deaf, and Finlay, had this to say: "The Summer school was phenomenal. We learned so much and were overwhelmed by the one to one care." Paul added: "Going to the summer School confirmed for us that the Natural Aural route is the right one."



But the final words must be those of John Matthews, who said: "It's great to celebrate the past, but even more important to celebrate the future." So let's all raise our glasses to the next 25 years...

Message from the Chairman - Thank you to all who were involved in any way and who attended Stoneleigh, thank you also to Advance Bionics, Cochlear, and SOECIC for sponsoring the event. Also thank you to all our exhibitors and to Connevans for providing several prizes. Full report in CHAT - A reminder that CHAT will only be sent out to paid Members of DELTA.

DELTA relies on Membership subscriptions, donations and sponsors to keep going. Subscriptions are £40 for Joint, £30 for Single and £15 for Concessions. You can spread these figures into quarterly payments if you wish. If you would like to become a Member please contact [Frances](#).

Christmas 2009 Grand Draw Tickets

£1 each

(Books of 5)

**buy via the office and volunteers
sell them for us
prizes list on website**

1st Prize: Bungalow Break

2nd Prize: Hand Made Quilt

3rd Prize: Lewis Hamilton Photographic Prints

Other prizes include:

Item of Personalised Photo Art (Courtesy of
www.bohemia-images.co.uk),

Sonic Boom Alarm (2) (Courtesy of
www.connevans.com),

Archery Lessons for 4 people (Courtesy of Alan
Grimshaw, Toxoteach)

Various Vouchers

To be drawn on Friday 11th December 2009 by Mr David Evans at Connevans,
Reigate, Surrey

(Further details and full list of prizes can be found on our website:
www.deafeducation.org.uk)

Forthcoming events

**Saturday December 5th... DELTA Christmas
Party...**

10.30 - 15.00

The 6th DELTA Christmas Party at Greenmeadow Community Farm, Cwmbran, South Wales, NP44 5AJ. (Just off the M4) Tickets are £8.50 per child (adults free) and bookings are made via Lynn Hounsomes on lghounsomes@gmail.com or visit our website for further details. For further details about the farm visit www.greenmeadowcommunityfarm.org.uk

Sunday December 6th... The Carmen Challenge...

Registration - 9.30am, Rehearsals - 10.00am - 1.30pm & 2.30pm - 6.00pm, Performance - 7.30pm

The Carmen Challenge is continuing well. The primary auditions for 'Carmen' have taken place, and on Sunday November 8th, three excellent 'Carmens' will be put through their paces, both musically and dramatically before a Grand Jury. A limited number of tickets are available for this at a cost of £5 to include a glass of wine and light refreshments. This audition like the main event on Sunday December 6th will be held at The Leisure Centre, Monmouth. With the professional direction and musical accompaniment, these events promise to be marvellous events – and raising funds for DELTA. Please see website <http://www.carmenchallenge.com/> for details.

Christmas Merchandise

We have for sale this year our **Calendars** with a DELTA reminder each month (Festive envelope included)

& **Christmas Cards** (4 different designs by children).

We also have a selection of t-shirts and polo shirts some of which are organic cotton, these all come with our smart new logo celebrating 25 years of Summer School.

All are sold at a very good price, these would make great **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!**

Check out the Christmas Merchandise list on the website

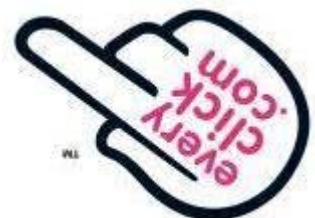
**Talking of shopping for Christmas presents...
When you search or buy on line, how do YOU do it?**

**Spend 2 or 3 minutes of your time by using these sites below,
and you can give DELTA a Christmas present too!**

**You can also continue to raise funds for DELTA,
every time you search the internet through Every Click.**



- Go to www.everyclick.co.uk
- Register by filling in your details
- Choose Deaf Education through Listening and Talking as your charity
- Choose everyclick as your home page or a tab on your home page
- Use it every time to type in a website
 - Use it every time to search



- Use it every time to shop OR shop through our web site.

We currently have 46 users who have raised over £143 just by doing this.

Imagine if there were 146 users ???
Or more ! ? !

Personal Ads

(Always wanted - as is your input)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FOR SALE</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Visit our website for DELTA Merchandise including our new 25 years of Summer School Logo</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DELTA Merchandise</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADVERTISING</u> <u>(PAID)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">This is empty, perhaps you could be here next month?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>WANTED</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regional Volunteers to assist regional teams and events</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What's on info of events around the country for oral/aural deaf youngsters and their families and professionals</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact: enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADVERTISING</u> <u>(Donation per Booking)</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Holiday accommodation in Turkey Villa sleeps 8 -11 or Villa sleeping 6/7 plus separate 1 bed Apt sleeps 2/4 ALSO Duplex sleeping 6 www.kalkanholidays.info</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weddings in Turkey For a wonderful and reasonable wedding see www.kalkan-weddings.co.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Qualified lady photographer Weddings, Portraits, Pets www.bohemia-images.co.uk</p>

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