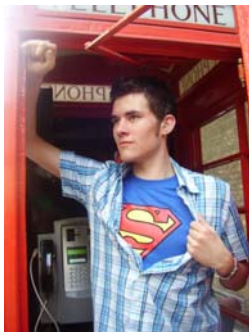




Sketch



‘Hi and Welcome to the first new look for the YDAG Newsletter. It will be a tough act to follow the infamous McDonald (not the one with the farm!) and I’m sure he’ll be featuring in the newsletter soon enough!

The last few months have seen DELTA have its ups and downs but now...it’s raring to go! It all kicked off with a Harry Potter theme at the traditional party of Pendle Bar, Lancaster University on the same day as the final instalment of the book came out. It also saw many surprises with Edd Stuart wearing a dress and flashing his legs, only if £100 was raised for DELTA, which we did of course!

Overall, the Summer Schools were a success and even managed to make under budget! So without much further ado, I present you the YDAG Newsletter, the Summer School: Aftermath edition!

Birthdays

YDAG would like to wish a very happy birthday to Rosie White, Lee Dutton, Hannah Wilson, John Durance, James Sharpe and any others who may have been missed out!

DELTA NEWS



Summer Schools 2007

Providing information, encouragement and support for families who wish to learn more about how their profoundly or severely deaf



Need a CRB check now?

If you haven't got a CRB disclosure check or your current 3 years disclosure is up its expiry dates, email Lynn Hounsome at

enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk

DELTA Hoodies Order

Please e-mail Michelle our Office Manager
enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk
We will send you an order form with all the details needed.

Order deadline 20th Oct.
Costs - £22.95 with Standard logo stitched on front and or £24.95 with Ydag printed on back. Hurry and get yours now!

Facebook Group

Join the social network group of the DELTA volunteers! It's a great way to meet the current volunteers!

www.facebook.com

DELTA Volunteers Xmas Meal Organiser(s) Needed!

Fancy organising the ongoing tradition that is the DELTA Xmas meal? You can do it with a partner or on your own. Last year, it was at Pizza Express in Leicester by Ed Rex.

Please get your nomination in the Facebook group by the end of Sept.

Announcements

If you need to give an announcement in the next newsletter, please email to edwardrex@hotmail.co.uk

REVIEW



Jennifer Ryan, an Oxford Brookes student, reviews her first time at Lancaster Summer School...

'I have to admit I was slightly apprehensive about joining summer school 2007.'

Aside from the reassurance from Ian McDonald that I would be well looked after. This was to be my first hand on experience of volunteering as well as entertaining children for five days which seemed to be a rather daunting task!

Nevertheless when I arrived on a dreary, dark and wet evening, I was greeted with a hospitable welcome in which a group of lads kindly offered to carry my bags and show me to my room! A very impressive team of hotel Bell Boys- all you need now is a golden trolley!! Introductions were made in the kitchen- where I had my first panic attack that I wouldn't remember everyone's name!

The first night was such a laugh in which a group of us played a lethal game of snap!! It became so competitive that my skin endured bruising and scratching!

Monday seemed to be a fairly leisurely day in which I was spoilt with a cooked English Breakfast- much to the jealousy of Ian! The fun and chaos began on Tuesday when I was introduced to my set of children and partner. I didn't know who would be more trouble- the girls or Andy?!



Off to Blackpool Zoo we went - in which proved to be a rather enjoyable but hyperactive day! After a game of 'catch me if you can' when one of the girls decided to run away, it was reassuring to climb back on the coach to chill out!! But oh no- Andy wouldn't have it, and forced me to listen to his 'cracking' jokes!!

As the week went on- I began to learn the tricks of keeping the children amused and at one point Andy confessed I had the 'magic touch'. It was rewarding to see the children looking happy and to have enthusiasm within their ambience they were placed in.

Caption Corner



Kate demanded what Ian exactly has been doing with her phone...



yep...that was Shrek the Third was like



Fart came out the wrong way

Caption Competition

Winning entry gets a Hoody!

edwardrex@hotmail.co.uk

Editors' decision is final!



Friday was upon us before we knew it- and it was rather strange to say farewell to the children. I will miss them- even if they caused me grief at times! I don't think I ever felt so distraught when one of the girls left her hearing aid behind on the coach! Fortunately due to the efficiency of Steve, the coach driver was tracked down and the hearing aid was found!!



Friday night when I left Delta, felt weirdly quiet. It dawned upon me that I was experiencing withdrawal symptoms!! I will miss the social atmosphere, the cheekiness of Ed R, Lambrini Kate, the gorgeous food cooked by the volunteers- (to whoever made that Cottage Pie- it was grand!!) the wit of Breenie, the ability of Ian to keep calling me Jessica- **it's JENNIFER!**, and the trademark yellow caps and green t-shirts to mention but a few.



'Thanks to all staff and volunteers for making me feel welcome!'

Jennifer Ryan

NDCS Youth Consultation

As a young deaf person, you matter and we want to know what matters to you.

Why?

We want to improve what we do for you so that we can be the best we can be. NDCS can only work for a better future for all of you by knowing what you need and want. When we know you better we can improve our services and create new ones just for you.

How can you get involved?

All you have to do is go to www.changeyourworld.info and sign up to get involved. We will be asking lots of questions that you can answer online and we would like to meet with some of you face-to-face at the events advertised on the website.

We also want to get the views of your parents, carers and the professionals who support you – so let them know what we are doing and get them to visit the website too.

If you don't have access to the internet then please write to: Tyron Woolfe, NDCS, 15 Dufferin Street, London EC1Y 8UR

"We really want to understand your needs and wants" says Tyron Woolfe, Deputy Director for Children and Youth. "We want you to take the lead as we develop our services for you and we want everyone to hear your views loud and clear. I am really looking forward to getting your views. The more of you who get involved the bigger your impact will be, so make sure you visit the website or write to me.



GREAT NORTH RUN – SUN 30TH SEPT

9 fantastic DELTA Volunteers are running for DELTA on Sun 30th Sept at Newcastle.

They need your support whether it is cheering them at the sidelines, click on their justgiving websites for them or even training with them! See below...

Becci Sharpe

www.justgiving.com/beccirunning

Edd Stuart

www.justgiving.com/edwardstuart

Sue Lewis

www.justgiving.com/suelewisdelta

Phillip Lewis

www.justgiving.com/philliplewis

Sam Lewis

www.justgiving.com/samlewis

Roz White

www.justgiving.com/rosalindwhite

Jill Millman

www.justgiving.com/jill_does_the_great_north_run

Emily Woodcock

www.justgiving.com/emily_does_the_great_north_run

Alison Holmes

www.justgiving.com/alisonholmans1

SUPPORTING...

Please come out and support on the sidelines, Ed Rex is driving from Yorkshire up to Newcastle on Saturday 29th Sept and has kindly offered 4 spaces in his car for people.

All he requires is entertainment! If you are coming from the South of Yorkshire, he will meet you at a train station in Yorkshire. Its first come, first served basis!

FUNDRAISING

SNOWDON WALK - OCTOBER

Hi there,

It's Emma Beck here and do hope your all well and have recovered the summer school, it was fun and informative wasn't it?

Anyhow the primary group will remember me asking them about a wee tiny walk!! Up to the summit of Snowdon, so for the pre- school group I'm asking for the first time and letting you all know that this walk is going ahead in October.

The date hasn't been fully decided yet as I want to accommodate as many people as I can, Oxfordshire half term starts on 19th but I think this is too far into October as the nights start to draw in - so thinking 12th October!! (5th is my sons 7th birthday and I don't think he will be happy about driving to Wales as his birthday treat!!!)

The train is still running till the end of October!!! I will need this as I am planning on taking my 2 sons (Jacob and Reuben) up to the summit as well as a hearing dog for the deaf, so paws and feet may need the train preferable to go down rather than up!!

I'm sorting out accommodation it will either be a basic mountain hut or a YHA near as possible to Snowdon (which you will need to pay for yourself- I will do as cheap as possible but making sure we have a few home comforts too)

I am planning on travelling to the base for Friday evening, have a catch up and refreshing sleep!! Then start walking early Saturday eating lunch on route (picnic style) then pub dinner with wine and beer at the end.

Returning home Sunday.

I have done Snowdon a few times - although not the easy route, so this time as its a first for many and especially for the boys I would like to take the easiest route up, although that is still about 6 miles up hill the scenes are beautiful and out of this world.

So, this email is asking you if your a walker or a climber or even a first timer for mountain walking come on take the challenge, raise money for DELTA (my sponsors will be for both Hearing dogs for the deaf and DELTA- as my dog is being trained and will be with us as a family dog by Jan 08). Have a think and email me back with your answer or queries. If it's not your thing that's fine, BUT please, please ask your companies that you all work for to sponsor us. I'm sure we are all happy to wear a companies name for money.

Thanks for reading this email. Looking forward to your replies. I will keep in touch with those people who respond.
emmalouisebeck@googlemail.com

Emma Beck

BARN DANCE

Dancing to great music
from

"Belzebub"

Friday 12th October

Wymeswold Village
Hall

8pm till midnight - bar
available

Tickets only £10 (inc.
supper)

Available from
Wymeswold Post Office
or
Phone Ray Jane on 01509
881127

All monies raised will go to
DELTA; a charity supporting
deaf children and their
families



Hannah Cheney

INTERVIEW

YDAG caught up with Hannah Cheney, the resident chatterbox, on her life and DELTA...

How did you get involved in DELTA?

I first got involved in DELTA in 1998... after my only deaf friend at the time Daniel Rule told me all about it. He tried to get me involved so many times. So I finally decided what the fuss was all about and never looked back as made so many wonderful deaf friends and was help to help parents out

How was it meeting so many deaf people?

*Erm... Was not what I expected really?
I can't remember because it's not like have not met deaf people before as used to go to deaf workshops when I was younger. App met Ian and Dan at those*

What is your Hearing loss?

I am profoundly deaf, was not confirmed till I was 3 yrs old

Do you use anything to help with your deafness during day to day life?

*Hearing aids, vibrating alarm clock, mobile phone, internet for emailing/msn.
I do have a vibrating smoke alarm*

What was the support you had during your education?

*I had a teacher of the deaf, who used to come and see me once a week for a couple of hours. Had a radio and microphone link thing - one for me and one of the teacher.
When I was at uni I had a note taker.*

Any funny deaf story?

*Gosh there probably are so many.
I do remember one when me and Dan rule went to Sainsbury's shopping once and we went to the counter and this woman clocked on that we both were deaf and she started talking funny and over pronouncing words... Made herself look stupid really. cos me and Dan just looked at each other and thought.. Silly woman*

What are you doing now?

*I am an out of school club nursery assistant
Textile tutor with the visually impaired
Session play worker for the British red cross
Will be starting my HNC in Advance Practice in working with children and families course*

Wow, sounds great! What is your ambition to do?

*To get one job ha ha ha
Where can put in all my years of experience and skills to good use*

What do you like to get up to in your spare time?

Socialising with friends. Going to the cinema. Being creative - art and textiles. Chilling out. Going away for weekends

If others had to describe you, what would they say?

Chatty, Smiley, Cheeky, Friendly, creative

The Green Room

Photos have been discovered to suggest that a certain new arrival loves being in front of the lens, which may suggest a second job to being a student...

A long-standing leading senior volunteer was overheard repeatedly throughout Lancaster Summer School to other volunteers:

'Do that again, and I'll give you a really hard one!' Ooh er!

Watch out for wandering hands, girls, as a veteran is known for them!



A recent open air festival saw a senior leader do a classic faux-pas by sleeping with her head stuck out of the tent flap when sleeping on an air-bed...

2 camels at Blackpool Zoo has been given the names of Sera and Chris...
Coincidence? Or do they just have the hump?

So Ms Hannah Cheney, if you had to describe yourself in 3 words, what would they be?

Helpful, Team worker, Approachable

Well 3 words ain't enough. I could go on...haha

What three things would you save from your burning house?

my mobile phone, photographs, erm...

family if they were there

What? Your mobile is more important to you than family?

Ha ha

I did not know if you meant objects or whatever

Eeeeeek

Family, Mobile phone, and photos

Wise choice. Thank you for your time.

Next week, YDAG will be interviewing Roz White and Edd Stuart in the Great North Run Edition.

Whisper from DELTA...

Dear All

Firstly well done Ed for a fantastic newsletter, you're doing a brilliant job, particularly as Ian was such a hard act to follow.

Summer school seems such a long way away now but thanks to all our helpers and supporters it was one of the best, so a big thank you again to every one of you who contributed.

As you can see we've got lots of fundraising events going on at the moment so please support where you can. Hope to see lots of you at the Barn Dance in Leicestershire with all your friends. I'm going to be there so I'm counting on lots of willing partners to "strip the willow" with!!

The Great North Run preparations are coming on nicely and well done Ed for heading up the support team, the more the merrier.

We are sorting out our calendar for next year and we're hoping to hold a YDAG weekend in Feb/March time, similar to the Oxford weekend (for those of you who remember) that we held a couple of years back.

Please contact me if you're interested in attending and your favourite dates...more details to follow.

That's it for the moment, please keep us foremost in your minds for fundraising, we're not out of the woods just yet and need all the help we can get.

Thanks Ed keep up the good work

Wendy xxx

What a fantastic

Summer School!

It was great to see so many new YDAG volunteers and how well you all took to looking after the children.

I especially have fond memories of the crèche and seeing that all the 2 year old girls had a special fondness for the YDAG guys. Hiten and Priyant certainly have that magic touch. It was endearing to see sleepy little ones cuddled and asleep as they awaited their parent's arrival from the talks. I am going to have to watch out for Rose and Esme when they turn 18 and join the YDAG group of the future. I won't have the heart to tell them that Hiten and Priyant will be mid 30s by then.

DELTA can't thank you enough for the work you put in at Summer Schools, families are so appreciative of the work you do and the inspiration that you give them.

Hoping you all have a great year ahead. Whether it is further studies, new jobs or old ones. Keep in touch with each other, spread the word, fly the flag and keep having fun!!

All the Best

Alison Holmans
Chair of DELTA

Something I want to share.

I am from New Zealand and when we say someone is a good laugh we say they are "a bit of a dag".

Well, now let me explain what a 'dag' is.

You may well have seen (those who live in the country or belong to the farming fraternity) sheep with wool hanging from their back end around their tail and bumhole. This inevitably gets clogged up with 'poo' and as the sheep's wool grows these 'dags' wobble and bob about as they move.

The sheep inevitably are shorn and their 'dags' are shorn off.

Another 'Kiwi' expression is to 'rattle your dags'. Which basically means 'hurry up and get a move on.' Just like the sheep that run along with their dags rattling and bobbing about as they are herded together.

Without stressing the point too much. You guys are a great bunch of 'pooy-woolly bits that hang down from the backside of a sheep. And when you are in a hurry you look like bouncing pooy bits that hang down from the back of a sheep.

Please don't take this personally. I really see you all as a great bunch of young people, who are friendly and like to enjoy life and share each other's company.

You are really a great bunch of Dags.

Alison Holmans (who also has been known to have had a few 'daggy' moments)