

Sketch



Hi, I am Hiten Laad. I am sure I am sure I don't need to tell you who the hell I am.

Lemme start again..... I am very honoured to part of this new look YDAG newsletter. DELTA is still buzzing after the Lancaster Summer School. Already DELTA has been involved in Great North Run and the Snowdon Walk and raised money. Imagine what we could raise more if we had more of us joining them. I am glad to hear there are much more events than last previous years coming up. Don't miss those opportunities! For now, enjoy this newsletter.



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Howdy! Welcome to the Deluxe Edition of the November Newsletter (alliteration..smart eh?!)

I say it's a deluxe because in the past 2 months, YDAGs have been extremely active in fundraising efforts, meetings and a social...or two...or a trillion!

Don't forget to keep fundraising for the next summer schools, only 8 months to go!

Thank you for your opinions of the last newsletter and it really helped us to refine this one and make it even better than before!

YDAG Weekend

A Training weekend for the YDAGs is currently being organized at the moment for a weekend in February at Oxford.

This will be similar to the March 2005 weekend as there will be some teamwork, brainstorming and the odd social. If you would like to attend please inform Wendy.

Xmas Meal

For the first time ever, DELTA Christmas Meal is being moved outside Leicester.

Becci Sharpe, who is so busy with her university studies, decided to take this challenge to organise this Xmas Meal and her biggest challenge was convincing people to come up to Manchester.

With the help of Ed Rex, Roz White and Richard Breen, Pizza Express in Manchester was booked on Saturday 22nd December, £16.95 a head for three courses. Up to 25 people are coming to the meal and with exciting plans to hit the bars in city of Manchester, this promise to be the best ever.

Now is your mouth watering yet?? For those who won't make it, you will be sure to read the aftermath stories of this Meal in our next edition. For those who are going, behave yourself!

Great North Run



'The Aging Process...'

Congratulations to all the runners that took part in the Great North Run 2007!

This year saw 19 runners with their trademark DELTA Running Vests hightailing it from Newcastle to South Shields in a 13.1 mile run! It was a massive feat for the first timers especially for our dear Roz White who became ill the night before after eating some pasta which weren't gluten-free after a cock up at an Italian restaurant.

Some people, both runners and supporters, got together the night before at a 'last supper' feel at an Italian Restaurant. There were sharing of tips, advice and plenty of gossip for those who haven't seen each other for ages!

The next morning, everyone met up at the buses where there were thousands of people, dressed up or normal, passed through to the start line. The Green DELTA Balloons were waving and Edd Stuart had to run back to the house after forgetting his chip! So it was time to start...



'Where's Wally?'

Great North Run Interview

Hiten Laad interviews Edd Stuart on his experiences of the Run...

Luke and I cheered the runners as they passed under us and the bridge at the start line and we held our breath to see if we would see them again...

Then we had to figure how to get to South Shields quickly along with thousands of people. We skipped the first metro station, which had massive queues, but to our pleasant surprise, the next metro station had none! Bwahahahahaha! After hanging onto the side of the tube for an agonizing 13.1 miles we arrived at SS. There we waited amongst the stragglers and lo and behold, Edd Stuart arrived looking he went through a round with Frank Bruno. Then came everyone else with Becci Sharpe asking out loud 'Why the hell did I do this!' But all round, it was a fantastic sunny day (I got sunburnt), and everyone wanted to do it again!



How are you Edd the Duck.....how did you get this nickname by the way?

I'm not actually known as Edd the Duck by anyone except for you! Briefly one person at university did call me Edd the Duck but since my early secondary school days I think people just didn't bother! Having said that I don't mind it! As long as it's not derogatory or whatnot then it's no problem.

Ha-ha. What other nicknames do you have then?

I'd rather not say but hell, it's Delta, so humiliation can now be announced to the whole world! By my university friends I'm known as Edwina. I'm also known as Lemur to some Delta people!

Nice one. This brings us to DELTA, how and when did u get involved in DELTA?

Well I was working for Leicester City Council as a project officer and was asked to go to a site which was based next door to the Deaf Education services. I'd been thinking for a while about finding out more about deaf organizations and making new friends so I went into the office and announced my presence as a deaf person and whether they knew of any local organizations. I met a lovely lady, Christine Rees and she gave me your email address and Steve Matthew's email address to contact.

So I emailed you and Steve and introduced myself and then met you and a few of the other Delta volunteers to go watch a subtitled screening at the cinema in Leicester

You then told me about Delta (as did Steve) and then I came along as a volunteer in 2005 and Delta has benefited from my wisdom henceforth! However, Delta has benefited me greatly. Not only from new friends but also from letting me to accept my deafness. Perhaps that's the wrong word... enabling is better.

Working with the kids is brilliant too; some of them can be really inspirational, it's unfair to pick any as they've all been great... most of the time!

That was a nice story. We are glad to found you. You have become one of the most valued members of DELTA. Recently you have run the GNR this year, not for the first time. How did you get on?



'Little did they realize they joined a cult...'

DELTA Parties Up North!



The start of November saw a DELTA fundraising uniform party held in honour for Becky Marchmont's 20th Birthday. Ed Rex went to report on the night of antics and mischief at St Andrews!

'Happy Birthday to Becky!' everyone sang to her in her seductive living room, a bubbling sound coming from the cocktail fountain in the corner and also whimpering of John McGovern, Miss Massage's boyfriend, as his leg was waxed by excited and torturing friends. This was indeed a DELTA party. Around £50 was raised from John's leg-waxing and others emptied their wallets, purses, bras of their money. Shortly afterwards, we went on a fundraising spree and hit the nearby pubs and the student union. (Fundraising total yet to be confirmed) Everyone had a fantastic time and learnt a lot by DELTA! One person didn't even realize I was deaf when I was talking to him about DELTA! Here's some photos of John for you to enjoy...



'Advert for constipation'

I'm not sure if I'm the most valued! But I'm glad to help. The Great North Run is indeed a challenge, this year was my second run and I'm afraid I didn't give it the respect it was due and as a result after about 3 miles I was already feeling the strain. I was hoping to beat last year's time of 1 hour 50 minutes but after 3 miles I was thinking I'd be glad to finish let alone beat my time! However, coming into the final mile I realized I had 15 minutes to beat 2 hours and fought all the way to finish in 1 hour 59 minutes. I was so elated to finish! And a double bonus was that I beat one of the parents whom I'd been chatting to before the race! Friendly banter and competition is always good! My only regret is I couldn't beat YOU!

I was going to say you still have this competitive edge. And you beating me would never happen. Beside you beat me at every sport on the list. What was the first thing you did after the race?

I was also glad to raise £260 for Delta. It is true I may be able to beat you at other sports but I think that would have given me the motivation to train better! Bring on the London Marathon!

The first thing I did after the race was look for Ed Rex and his merry gang of helpers with their Green Delta balloons, it took a while as there are many thousands running the race and then many more watching and spurring people on. What I would have done for a nice massage though! My legs were aching!

I see. Did you really prepare yourself on the night before the race? How did you and the other volunteers prepared for the race?

Before my first race in 2006 I went out in Newcastle with Becci Sharpe, Ed Rex, Hiten Laad and Roz White to a interestingly decorated Italian place and had a calzone (for the carbs!) and I ran a good race.

So this year we saw fit to continue the tradition and visited the same place again. Unfortunately, Roz is glucose intolerant and had brought her own pasta for them to cook but in the mayhem that was the kitchen they gave her the wrong pasta. She was sick all night but still ran the race; how she did it, I'll never know!

Oh really. She was very brave by finishing the race didn't she?

For even contemplating starting the race she was borderline insane! But then she is studying medicine so if anyone was to know it was her.

To guarantee your participation on for your next run, I will be running the London Marathon 2008 and GNR\$. Would you like to re-claim your £20 back?

Well as much as I'd like to run the London Marathon in April 2008 and claim my £20 back. I've earmarked a double whammy of the Great North Run 2008 and the London Marathon 2009 and perhaps throwing in a 3 peaks challenge as well!

Well on that note, on behalf of DELTA, I wish you all the luck for the year 2008. Please do keep up the good work.

Thanks, good luck with the London Marathon and don't give up the day job. See you in Oxford for YDAG weekend!

I need no luck mate. Cheers. Yes I will see you in Oxford around February.

Emma Beck, the organizer of the Snowdon Walk reports...

SNOWDON- you missed a treat, we had beautiful sunshine and clear skies, the views from the summit were amazing. Many of the walkers had never done a serious walk let alone a mountain!! All the walkers did us proud, they took each stride up hill well, and we all supported each other and worked so well as a team.

The climb to the summit took a good 4.5 hrs, as there were no seats on the train all but 3 of us had to return on foot and once back at the well equipped and really comfortable youth hostel for a few earned meal, shower and a glass of wine.

Many thanks to all the walkers you did really well. Monies are still coming in total unknown at the present time.

Don't put your walking foot away just yet, how about another walk just for DELTA in the New Year to burn off those Christmas calories? Get in touch if you're on for a FLAT walk.

The Snowdon Walk



Steve Matthews: 'Okay, one...two...three...The Hills are alive, with the Sound of Music!'



It was pretty obvious which team would win in a paintball fight...

Barn Dance Wymeswold Friday 12 October 2007



"What's a fantastic evening it was – thanks to Maria and Ray Jane for organising such a superb event in a sleepy village Wymeswold. The villagers (and outsiders) were willing to get their cow boots out to give the village a good shake!



Everyone – from young sweethearts, lone birds to mature lovebirds – enjoyed themselves and I had such a fabulous time. I was the only cowboy wearing my hat – and everyone was in spirit. I was all hot and sweaty after doing the dances on the dance floor and I think I might have lost a pound or so! Laura tried to get out of the barn dances but failed. Matthew got away with it – he only did two dances!



Wendy and Jenny were there and it was good to see them. I could see they had a good time and I think Jenny want to come back and dance again very soon – and so do I. Come on Maria – another barn dance please...! Whey hey!

By the Famous MacDonald, Ian!

Snowdon Walk Diary

By YDAGs very own 'Bridget Jones'...Laura McAuley



Friday 19th October.

I was collected by Ian from my house at 2pm. We had aimed to pick Owen up from Beeston at 3pm and arrive in plenty of time at the hostel before dinner to relax and have wine...but nothing ever goes to plan for us lot!

1410 - Hit accident on M1, snail pace traffic..

1430 - Ian had the brainwave to come off M1 and take a different route

1431 - Back on M1 a minute later, going over the junction meant we avoided the accident!

1443 - Beep Beep, text alert. Owen hasn't packed bag...

1453 - Emergency chocolate stop at Sainsburys. Looked longingly at the wine.

1510 - Leave Beeston, only 10 minutes late after all that.

All is fine, until we get to Stoke on Trent, sign posts were unclear and we found ourselves on the M6 in standstill traffic.

1619 - Ian wants to get out car on M6, "How do I get out of here?" He asks.

Eventually on right route, we decide the motorways are our best option as soon it will be dark so we wish to avoid dark, winding roads with sheep on them. Bad plan. We hit slow traffic all the way to Bangor..

2015 - Finally arrive at hostel

2100 - Bottle of wine open...How we managed to wait 45 minutes I do not know.

2130 - Ian puts on ears and tail...and we consume more wine.

2330 - Bed zzz

Saturday 20th October

0630 - Ian in kitchen helping to prepare breakfast. Everyone else joins 7.30-8am.

0830 - Smoke alarm goes off due to burnt toast...i think. I am still half asleep.

0920 Set off for Snowdon in car.

0924 - Avoid stupid sheep on the road.

10am set off up the mountain.

At this point I stopped taking notes, I was too busy focusing on the walk. It was pretty tough for me but, we had a beautiful day weather wise which helped. I made it all the way to the top and back down again! :-)) considering I was relying on the train coming back down, I was pretty pleased to have achieved this. We came back off the mountain at almost 6pm so it was a very long day! We eventually got home at 10pm after leaving near 7pm, and had to grab food before going to bed for a well earned rest...

Hang on a minute, what rest? We had to be up for 3am to go to Luton airport for 5am to catch a flight to Spain.....Oh well, those cocktails made the walk worthwhile!!

Thanks to all our Sponsors.

Swimming Gala Social Pics!



Flashback

Introducing the new article for the YDAG, we take a look back at the past events that has happened in DELTA. This issue, we look back to the Loughborough Swimming Gala in Sept 2003...

Charlie's a splash at swim gala

ONE of the most famous faces in gardening has paid a visit to Loughborough as part of a charity swim for deaf children. Charlie Dimmock, star of hit BBC show *Ground Force*, was at Loughborough University presenting the prizes.

The gala was organised by the charity DELTA - Deaf Education Through Listening and Talking - to mark its 23rd anniversary.

Hearing and deaf youngsters competed in two hours of races to raise money for the charity.

DELTA chief executive Wendy Barnes said: "Having Charlie involved was a boost, this was the second event she's attended and we hope she enjoyed it."

DELTA is a voluntary organisation of deaf adults and parents and teachers of deaf children, who act as a support network to parents trying to help their child to listen and talk, using the natural aural approach. It is based on some residual hearing, with the use of hearing aids.



SMILES: Charlie Dimmock with swimmers Daniel Rule, Laura McAuley and Ian McDonald at Loughborough University Pool

It was DELTA's first ever Swimming Gala, which was held on 13th September 2003 at Loughborough University.

Charlie Dimmock, from BBC1's *Ground Force*, came along to watch and cheers the swimmers on. She signed the certificates which were presented to everyone who took part. There was quite a bit of publicity around this event, with Central TV news and reporters from the *Leicester Mercury*.

We like to re-mention that we were so grateful to Ann Breen, mother of YDAG's member Richard Breen, and is also a qualified swimming instructor who not only organised the races and swimming lessons but brought along floats and balls for the fun time.

Other untold stories to tell.....

Catherine Wells arrived to the swimming pool with her suitcase and was told to store her suitcase in a locked room. After the swimming gala event, we all went to the Student Union for the presentation. When it all finished, she came back to the pool centre for her suitcase but it went missing. Dan Rule offered to help her and whilst searching he pointed out that his name is Daniel Smith, whose name is on the wall of

Stoke Golding Saturday 13 October 2007

"Laura and I went over to Stoke Golding (another sleepy village) on Saturday morning (yes – the night after the barn dance) to express our thanks to the young dancers for raising over a fantastic £1,000 for DELTA.

The children (aged from 4 to 14+) did a dance night show last September to raise funding for DELTA. Kia, who wears cochlear implant, was one of the dancers and she was lovely in her outfit and her pink wig. Expect to see her in 20 years time on BBC's Strictly Come Dancing.



Ian M"

honours at swimming pool and she was quite impressed and believed him. Later on, Dan, the saviour, found out that Wendy Adderley had her suitcase as it was putted away to her car. Later in the evening, she was crossed and unhappy with Dan after finding out from Liz Durance that his name is not Daniel Smith, the excellent swimmer, but just plain Daniel Rule. A perfect start to their relationship

Ed Rex, who is also a new arrival at the time, has another untold story to tell. After a fantastic night out which none of us can remember, Ed came to Loughborough University campus with Matt Jane and lost his glasses on the footpath. Ed asked Matt to help him to find it and then Matt went away and told Ed that he will be back. Much to his amazement, Matt actually went off to a taxi and left Ed on his own.

Ed still couldn't find his glasses. What is worse is that he had no idea where he is supposed to go back to the student accommodation. Luckily the security crew was there to spot him in distress and one of them drove him to the accommodation at.

The other good news is that Ed has found his glasses the next day.

Matt Jane is unavailable for comment.

Hiten Laad has a day to remember too. He was embarrassed in one of the races. He was quite eager to win this race especially when Richard Breen is not swimming on that day. He made four false starts and lost plenty of energy by diving in and climbing out from the pool. Then he was ordered to start the race in the water and eventually came woeful 5th place.

Laura McAuley, Ian McDonald and Dan Rule were the three people selected for the interview with local news. Also they were in the local paper with Charlie Dimmock.

Next Issue, we shall be looking back at this past year in a special edition of flashback. We welcome your memories and stories whether it was at Summer Schools, Xmas Meal, socials etc.

The Camera Never Lies



Proof that Pumpkins are deaf!!!!



There are ideas about Ed's new job



Body Spelling was sure never gonna work with those three...

Interview

YDAG caught up with our very own Roz 'I'm not Posh' White as we ask about her and her dealings with DELTA



Hello Roz, tell us about yourself...

Hi! Erm...what would you like to know? *gets self conscious*

So you are questionable...What are you doing now?

I am SUPPOSED to be doing anatomy of the shoulder preparation for dissection tomorrow in reality, I'm chewing my fingernails, talking to you and listening to Queen

So basically you could be a doctor in training or a cannibal with a liking to Queen?

OR all three...? patients should be SCARED

Haha, would they be scared if they knew you've just adopted a rabbit?

Certainly not - it denotes my caring nature! The rabbit is damn cute though

Okay, let's get to business, how did you get involved in DELTA?

Hmm well my parents took me to a Summer School when I was 18 months old - so like way back in 1989/1990? And it really helped them and gave them the confidence to bring me up talking etc

Sorry did you mean 1889?

Cheek! *smacks rude interviewer* so then i went back to help out at a Northern Summer School when i was 16 - and never looked back! whoo!

What was your favourite bit as a volunteer?

Unfortunately couldn't go this year because i was in Tanzania with the med school - but hopefully in 2008! er the drinking?? No not really! i just love talking to the kids and playing around with them but not Camelot when very hungover and I like talking to the parents too - my parents always said how wonderful it was to see young deaf adults talking etc - so I try to do that

How deaf are you?

Borderline severe/profound....I think that's 90 dB? But am a bit clueless to be honest!

Worn bilateral hearing aids since I was one, been jabbering away ever since!



Using X-Ray glasses, we reveal what Laura really wears underneath...



Hiten won't be served for a long long time...



The one with the whiskers seems better good looking...



Full Moon for Becky...

You'd be surprised that many deaf people do not know their range! What sort of help did you get at school?

Well I went to a private school so the LEA wouldn't help us at all but my teachers were generally amazing - and I had a radio hearing-aid as well which helped a lot

At uni i have a radio-aid too and also a note-taker the medical school is being amazingly supportive so far which has helped

Do you have a funny story related to your deafness?

Ermmmmm now they've all flown out of my head....there was this one time on a camping (& drinking!!) holiday in Norfolk when I lost my hearing aid on a beach

the beach was full of pebbles exactly the same colour as your standard hearing aid - beigey - and my friends and i were crawling around in bikinis trying to find it for SO SO LONG. Fortunately we did find it in the end - or it wouldn't have been funny!!!

Hehe, so Dr White, sounds like you will be appearing on a cludeo board, what do you do in your spare time?

Haha Dr White in the kitchen with the revolver!! I still run a bit - haven't learnt my lesson after the Great North Run yet!! And swim and Kickbox and I like walking with the Fellwalking Society - sometimes and I go to LINKS - the St John Ambulance society - the idea is to reduce my likelihood of killing someone when I'm on the wards next year!!

Hehe, so are you ready for the most important question?

gulps nervously yes

Who would win in a fight, a caveman or a spaceman?

Hmmm tricky one

imagines Steve Matthews as the caveman and Steve Adderley as the spaceman

I'd go with the caveman brute strength would win over space suits anyday

Hahaha! Good analogy! Well thank you for your time and I'll let you get back to crunching shoulder bones whilst listening to Queen. Cheers!

Thanks very much

Merry Christmas from Hiten and Ed!

