

## NEWSLETTER — AUTUMN TERM 2011/12

### Dyslexia Awareness Week 2011: Focus on Dyslexia

Monday 31st October to Sunday 6th November 2011

You will remember that last year one of our members, Helena John, was a national winner in the Art Competition linked to Dyslexia Awareness Week. Helena and her family had a wonderful day out in London, and at the awards ceremony. This year the competition has been extended to include inventions and writing categories. Submissions need to be in by **30<sup>th</sup> September** and details can be found on the link at the bottom of this article.

So will it be two years running for Dyslexia Network Plus members.....?

The BDA will also be awarding Dyslexic Individuals with an Entrepreneurs Award and an Outstanding Achievement Award on the same night. Please check for further details under 'Training and Events - B.D.A. Annual Awards' on the British Dyslexia Association website, and return any nominations you have for these awards by **30th September** to: [admin@bdadyslexia.org.uk](mailto:admin@bdadyslexia.org.uk)

For more details on any of the above, and also to look out for events and information nearer the time: [www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/get-involved-and-fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week.html](http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/get-involved-and-fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week.html)

### A fear of words

This is the title of a Steve's thought provoking blog entry. Steve asks, "A simple question, how many people do you know talk about reading?"

Steve is dyslexic and works in "an industry that takes reading for granted and we're expected to eat, sleep and live books."

Steve does talk about reading – he gives a frank and honest account of his ambivalent relationship with words and the struggles of his work.

To read his blog in full go to:

[www.foyles.co.uk/Public/Biblio/Detail.aspx?blogId=1046](http://www.foyles.co.uk/Public/Biblio/Detail.aspx?blogId=1046)

### TIPS

To change the background colour when reading PDF documents: Select —preferences—accessibility—customer colour—select preferred colour

### Really useful website ...

Do you have young dyslexic people in your family who would benefit from being able to talk to kindred spirits about their dyslexia in a safe environment? Then it is worth your while looking at

<http://www.beingdyslexic.co.uk/forums/> on the Being Dyslexic site. It is packed with useful information for dyslexic people of all ages with links to other useful sites and the option of airing and sharing issues.

### Touchpad technologies

This year has seen a rapid development in iPads, iPhones and other touchpad laptops, which look as if they will be very useful for our dyslexic users. There are new apps (mini focussed programs) coming out each day. Some of these are just fun items, but there are others to help with reading and spelling. The BDA New Technologies Committee website [www.bdatech.org](http://www.bdatech.org) is trying to keep up with developments, so do take a look. Another exciting development is that of the e-book – the iPad has colour and will speak out the text, not necessarily highlighting it as it moves, but the device is not as robust as it might be. The Kindle is a much cheaper and more robust solution, but only has a cream background with slate text that has some variations in font and size. Some books will talk, but not all. There is a vast range of titles available from Amazon, mostly much cheaper than a paper book and by linking the Kindle to a computer, you can download thousands of free titles from [http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page)

### USED INKJET CARTRIDGES

Please help us to raise additional funds by returning your used inkjet cartridges and mobile phones to The Recycling Factory - for further information please see their website: [www.therecyclingfactory.com](http://www.therecyclingfactory.com)

Or contact Judith McKenzie for a supply of envelopes

### Dyslexia Network Plus — Website:

Do keep looking on the website and if you hear of any interesting events related to dyslexia, do let Judith know, and it can be added to the events page.

email: [judidyslex@btinternet.com](mailto:judidyslex@btinternet.com)



**Dyslexia Network Plus** is a local Not-for-Profit organisation, run by parents to support families with dyslexic type difficulties

**Information Line: 0845 22 60 240**

**British Dyslexia**  
Association

# EVENTS

## Dyslexia Network Plus Events

**Annual General Meeting: Meet and Greet**

**Monday October 3rd: 7-9pm**

**Bedale Children's Centre, DL8 1AA**

*A brief business meeting*

*followed by wine drinks and nibbles*

*short film on dyslexia and open discussion*

**Talk: IT and Dyslexia**

**Monday October 17th October: 7-9pm**

**Thirsk Children's Centre, YO7 1SL**

*by Judith Stansfield*

*A very useful guide to IT options*

**Talk: Dyslexia Awareness for Parents**

**??? November ???: 7-9pm**

**Colburn Children's Centre, DL9 4RF**

*by Jill Swinhoe*

*An overview of the issues*

**\*events above are FREE but PLEASE BOOK as it helps us to know numbers\***

## Autumn Events In The Region

### Information Drop in Sessions

organised by NYPACT/NYCC

Meet a range a groups (including DNPlus) which support families with children with special educational needs/disabilities

market stall style—free—no need to book—children welcome

**Monday 10th October, 10-1pm, Northallerton Children's Centre, DL6 1RB**

**Thursday 13th October, Colburn Children's Centre, DL9 4RF**

### Transforming North Yorkshire's Services

#### Hambleton/Richmond Meeting

**Tuesday 11th October, 10-30-12.30, Rural Arts, Thirsk, YO7 1QS**

#### Open Meeting—Just come along

One of a series of consultation talks organised in the County by NYCC NYCC is establishing a comprehensive Change and Integration Programme

for children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

NYCC recognise that it is very important that families have an opportunity to influence proposed changes.

The view shared at these meetings will be used to shape the changes.

**Dyslexia Awareness Week: 31<sup>st</sup> October- 6<sup>th</sup> November**

#### Focus On Dyslexia

*Dyslexia Network Plus will be focussing on coloured filters/visual difficulties*

*For national events and competitions see*

*[www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/get-involved-and-fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week.html](http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/get-involved-and-fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week.html)*

*\*for venue location please contact us—many of the above are not easy to find\**

For more information Email: [dnplus@aol.com](mailto:dnplus@aol.com) Tel: 0845 22 60 240

Website: [www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk](http://www.dyslexianetworkplus.org.uk)