

# Cued Speech Association UK Newsletter



Complete spoken language  
through vision

Autumn 2011  
Issue 49

## Westminster meeting with Stephen Lloyd MP

Andrew Garratt, Cued Speech Association UK Chairman; Anne Worsfold, Executive Director and Nicholas Orpin, Development and Fundraising Officer met Liberal Democrat MP, **Stephen Lloyd** to talk about what Cued Speech can achieve for deaf children. Stephen, who was elected to Parliament in 2010, is a deafened adult (through childhood measles) and is the Vice Chair of the influential All Party Parliamentary Group on Deafness, the group of interested MPs who advise the government on policies for deaf children and adults.



Nicholas Orpin, Stephen Lloyd MP & Andrew Garratt

## Cued Speech tuition through 'Skype'

Many families live far from our tutors and daily life sometimes makes regular attendance in class difficult. We wanted to give you the convenience of having a tutor without you having to leave your home .... so we've developed remote tuition delivered through your computer.

What do you need to get started? The first thing is a computer with a broadband hook-up to the internet. Your computer needs a webcam, a microphone and some speakers - some have these built in. Then you need a software programme so that the webcam connects to the internet and you can see and hear your tutor. We chose to use 'Skype' software because it is free, good quality and is easy to use. You can download it at [www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com) and once it is installed you have to sign in your details and record a 'skype name'. You can then add the tutor's 'skype name' to your list of contacts (like you do for your email address book) and then when you are both on line with the

programme running you can call each other and there you are on each others screens!

We've been trialling this for a few months. We chose learners with different profiles to test drive the system including parents of deaf babies and children, some with basic Cued Speech knowledge, some complete beginners. The service was launched professionally in June with a team of professionals at Kirklees College in Yorkshire. The college bought 20 hours of tuition and this formula gives added flexibility to the lesson length. So if on one day the lesson naturally extends (because they don't see the time passing!) then only the actual time spent with the tutor is counted. Video conferencing is also an option for groups of up to about 4 students.

Lessons are usually weekly and an average of 40 minutes long. The Cued Speech workbook is used to give structure to the lessons but content is adapted to suit the different students' needs.

Tutor Nicholas Orpin tells us: 'Without doubt, the students who got on the best were those who worked on the [www.learn2ocue.co.uk](http://www.learn2ocue.co.uk) website before starting. It's an excellent resource for beginners and post-foundation levels.'

For all learning the winning combination seems to be: use the e-learning website, attend classes (either face-to-face or virtually through your computer), revise and recap regularly (with the workbook or on the website) and **use** Cued Speech in your daily life from the outset. For further information about learning see the back page.

## New Videos

More 'talking head' videos, filmed and edited by volunteer Andy Houghton are now available. Go to [www.cuedspeech.co.uk](http://www.cuedspeech.co.uk) to see:

**Chris Grimes**, manager of the Deaf and Hearing Impairment Team in Devon talking about the place of Cued Speech in Devon classrooms.

**Deaf Inclusion Worker Emma**, telling us about outstanding literacy progress in a bilingual student.

**Parent Laura and teaching assistant Andrea**, explaining how much progress 6-year old Abby made once Cued Speech was introduced.

**Great videos - thank you Andy and the 'video stars'!**

**Cued Speech Association UK (CSAUK)**  
Making available information about and training in Cued Speech



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## The Cued Speech Interview

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**This quarter Nicholas Orpin's interview with people in the Cued Speech world is with Anne Worsfold,** the Cued Speech Association UK Executive Director, tutor, co-author of the e-learning website and parent of two deaf adults who were brought up with Cued Speech. Anne, who is pictured below, has also edited all 49 issues of this Cued Speech Newsletter.

### **So, how the devil are you?**

Great, thank you; still on a bit of a high after meeting all the inspiring people at our Summer Camp.

**Have the last 12 months been good for you?** Yes, definitely.... but could someone just invent a few more hours in each day please?

**What's coming up on the horizon?** We're already planning next year's Summer Camp and setting priorities for our training development.

**3 reasons to be cheerful?** The wonderful people I work with, the wonderful people we teach, my wonderful friends (some of whom are also in categories one and two) and my wonderful sons (sorry, that's four).

**Any reason to be miserable?** I do get frustrated when I see deaf children struggling to communicate with hearing family and friends, to read and to access the curriculum because I know Cued Speech could solve all those problems.

**When you explain Cued Speech to someone, what do you say?** Ideally I need about 5 -10 minutes so it's hard to summarise ...and it's evolving. I often start by demonstrating how the 8 handshapes in 4 positions work with the lip-patterns to make spoken language visible. However, I set the scene by saying that hearing

people think in English (or French or whatever language/s their families use) and that this language gets into their heads (is 'internalised') through the speech their parents used when they were children.

When hearing parents use Cued Speech with their deaf child the same thing happens - the English language (or French etc.) is internalised. This is because speech is just 44 individual sounds (or phonemes) which combine to represent the whole language and Cued Speech is just 44 individual cues, (or phonemes) which combine to represent the whole language.

So.... Cued Speech gives access to **language**. But what makes it even more effective is that knowledge of language through the 44 phonemes also gives deaf children full access to literacy.

**And the one person who really needs to hear that is? One person??** Everyone who lives with or works with a deaf child, all those with the power to make or campaign for changes (e.g. government, other organisations etc), all deaf adults. Actually, I'd like everyone in the UK to be able to say 'Cued Speech? it's that thing that makes spoken language fully visible; it's invaluable for deaf children'.

**What are you reading at the moment?** Travel websites; by the time you read this I will be ...well, I don't know where yet.

**Twitter or Facebook?** Facebook - but I've got that time issue again!!

**Anything else to declare?** Yes, but I'll save it for the 50th issue of the newsletter!

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## Cued Speech and British Sign Language

The British Deaf Association (BDA) represents the community of British Sign Language users and is the largest Deaf-led organisation in the UK. They are in the process of developing their Bilingual Education Policy and will be collecting evidence and research from key organisations and schools. David Buxton, their Chief Executive Officer, tells us that they want to 'capture what would work best for Deaf children in both mainstream and deaf schools.'

In September Executive Director, Anne Worsfold, Nicholas Orpin (Development and Fundraising officer) and Cate Calder (CSAUK Educational Development Officer), visited David to discuss how Cued Speech fits into bilingual education both in the UK and in other

countries. We look forward to continuing our co-operative work with them in the future.



Cate Calder, David Buxton and Anne Worsfold at BDA headquarters in London.

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## Cued Speech

Giving access to spoken language for deaf babies, children and adults



# Summer Camp

## The 11th annual Cued Speech Summer Camp kick started the summer holidays in style!

Families, teachers and other professionals stayed in the on-site accommodation or camped in the superb grounds of Bickton College in Devon. 57 adults from 5 different countries attended Cued Speech lessons. 16 children attended the crèche and 28 children joined the children's class for play-centred learning in the mornings and adrenaline-filled fun in the afternoons. Many of the children's course tutors and activity leaders use both Cued Speech and/or British Sign Language (BSL) to communicate directly but communication support via Cued Speech Translitterators or BSL interpreters was also on-hand for everyone throughout the week.

New this year was very valuable input from Suzanne Harrigan, a Speech and Language Therapist at the cochlear implant charity The Ear Foundation. Suzanne gave a very entertaining presentation about communication, a music session and individual family sessions. We hope she will be able to join us again next year.

Students comments included:

"What an amazing experience. The teachers were great and the system is brilliant.....looking forward to next year already!! Thanks."

"Brilliant Camp, fantastic community."

"We are just amazed at the Cued Speech System and came away fully understanding it all and so motivated to get cueing and to get the word out..."

"The training has been fantastic in boosting my confidence when it comes to cueing."

"The activities and Bickton staff were brilliant."

"I thoroughly enjoyed this course. It was NEVER dull!"

The Summer Camp is funded both from fees paid by families and professionals and by charitable foundations such as Hilton in the Community Foundation and HSBC Global Education Trust.



Summer Camp - new friends to make; animals to meet; so many things to learn; so much fun to be had!



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## Learn Cued Speech

There are various ways you can learn:

### 1. One- or two-day Workshops are an excellent way to start.

They cover the basics of the Cued Speech system, research and information about how to use Cued Speech.

**They are suitable for:** parents and professionals who wish to start to learn Cued Speech **OR** professionals who need to pass on accurate information to parents.

#### Workshops this year are:

- 23 September 2011\* (one-day), London
- 23 November 2011\* (one-day), Nottingham
- 14 - 15 November (two-day), London

\*These workshops have the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Quality Assured status.

If you want to use Cued Speech fluently you will need to do more work after the workshop which you can do by:

- using our free e-learning website and/or
- booking some 'Skype' sessions with a tutor and/or
- arranging or attending face-to-face tuition (see below).

Workshops cost £80 per person for one day or £100 for two days **OR** are costed for a group (please enquire).

### 2. Alternatively you can begin by using our e-learning. Or use it for revision after a course.

Our E-learning website is free, go to: [www.learntocue.co.uk](http://www.learntocue.co.uk)

### 3. Book 'Skype' sessions for yourself or a small group. The Skype tutor can also help you practice with the e-learning website. Book by the session or, for greater flexibility, for a total number of hours.

Your first Skype session will be free - contact us to book.

### 4. Training on demand. We now deliver an increasing number of courses at basic and higher levels specifically for one family or group of professionals. Don't wait until there is a course in your area; contact us to talk about organising a workshop or course for your group. Each course is costed individually.

### 5. Summer Camp 2012. All levels from Foundation to Advanced; courses for children, a day-time crèche, comfortable accommodation and many outside activities will be offered at our annual 5-day Summer Camp. Stay on-site, camp in the grounds or travel in daily.

We are still in negotiations with the venue but we expect the Summer Camp to be held from **Monday 30th July - Friday 3rd August at Bicton College, Devon**. We will confirm dates, venue and prices as soon as we can.

### Combine the various learning routes to suit YOUR needs

#### Costs a problem?

**Contact us if the cost of fees is a problem.** We are committed to ensuring access for all and we fundraise to subsidise costs where necessary.

#### For training information contact:

For general enquiries or to book training contact Kim Fricker:  
[training@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:training@cuedspeech.co.uk) or 01803 832 784.

To discuss training options contact Anne Worsfold:

[AnneWorsfold@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:AnneWorsfold@cuedspeech.co.uk) or 01803 832 784.

## Cued Speech - complete spoken language through vision

Cued Speech is a simple system which uses eight handshapes in four positions near the mouth together with the lip patterns of normal speech to make spoken language fully accessible to deaf and hearing-impaired babies, children and adults.

## Cued Speech Association UK (CSAUK)

is a charity which was established in 1975 to provide information about and training in Cued Speech.

This is achieved by:

- providing tuition
- creating and making available teaching materials
- maintaining standards by examining
- collecting & disseminating information about international research and good practice
- working with other organisations.

### Contact details:

9 Jawbone Hill Dartmouth  
Devon TQ6 9RW  
Voice & textphone: 01803 832 784  
Fax: 01803 835 311  
E-mail: [info@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:info@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Webs: [www.cuedspeech.co.uk](http://www.cuedspeech.co.uk)  
and [www.learntocue.co.uk](http://www.learntocue.co.uk)

Executive Director: Anne Worsfold  
email: [AnneWorsfold@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:AnneWorsfold@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Deputy Executive Director: Sue Tweed  
email: [SueTweed@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:SueTweed@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Development and Fundraising Officer:  
Nicholas Orpin  
email: [NicholasOrpin@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:NicholasOrpin@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Course Co-ordinator: Kim Fricker  
email: [training@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:training@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Administrators: Debbie Hawke  
and Louise Creed  
email: [info@cuedspeech.co.uk](mailto:info@cuedspeech.co.uk)  
Accountant: Peter Allen  
Educational Development Officer: Cate Calder

Charity No 279523 Company No 1477997

#### This newsletter is produced quarterly.

We welcome comments, articles and news of your events. Please send copy for the next edition to Anne Worsfold by 1st December 2011.

**Cued Speech** was devised by the late Professor R Orin Cornett in 1966 and has been adapted into over 65 different languages and dialects.

