

Cued Speech Association UK Newsletter & courses update



Complete spoken language
through vision

Spring 2006
Issue 28

Do you want to learn to cue?

For the first time we are distributing our newsletter to all who have expressed an interest in learning Cued Speech or who have been on a course in recent years. We hope you will be able to join us on one of our forthcoming courses to learn or to improve your cueing skills.

Early bookings are advisable for the Exeter **Summer School** (Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August 2006). There will be classes for: Foundation, Improvers, French Cuers, Children and a special 3-day Skills Development class. A crèche will be provided, and there will be limited on-site accommodation provided on a first come first served basis. Optional evening activities will include social events and presentations. Contact Kim (her details are on the back page) for further information and bookings. Book now to avoid disappointment!

Non-residential courses are continually being arranged nationally to meet demand, sometimes at short notice. If you would like a course in your area or would like information about any of the venues listed on the back page please contact Kim.

e-learning website

We are enormously fortunate to have e-learning expert, Andy Houghton, designing a 'learn to cue' website for us completely free of charge.

The website is fun, easy to use and comprehensive. It still needs a little more work but it is already being successfully used by learners and is dramatically cutting the amount of face-to-face tuition needed.

Do you want to brush up your rusty cueing? Are you a curious non-cuer? Do you want to learn but can't yet attend one of our courses? Would you like to use the website and give us feedback? If so, please contact Kim (details back page).

CST Newsletter supplement

Members, and some selected individuals and organisations, will find the Cued Speech Transliterator (CST) Newsletter supplement is enclosed.

A Cued Speech Transliterator (CST) is an experienced user of Cued Speech who cues the speech of a third person (using clear lip-patterns silently) at the rate of normal speech. At present CSTs mostly operate in education, mainly because Cued Speech is relatively young. The eight-page supplement contains personal reports and information from other countries.

If a copy is not enclosed and you would like one please get in touch.

The Ace Campaign

The aims of the Access to Communication in English, ACE, campaign (run by a coalition of deaf organisations, including the Cued Speech Association UK) are to ensure that all deaf people who need English-based communication support can easily access it. The campaign has produced a series of booklets and leaflets to support the aims of the campaign. They include information about Cued Speech Transliteration. Copies are available from the Association office.

The publications are:

Providing access to communication in English for Deaf People: Your duties under the DDA - A guide for service providers, employers and trade organisations explains service providers' obligations to provide communication support.

Careers as a Language Service Professional - working with deaf people is a simple guide for people considering working as a Language Service Professional.

Providing access to communication in English for deaf people - Your rights to communication support under the DDA is a guide to inform deaf people of their rights and what they need to do in order to ensure services provide the right support.

Cued Speech conference in Finland
See inside.

Cued Speech Association UK
Making available information about and training in Cued Speech



Cued Speech - miscellaneous

Staff and management committee changes

We are fortunate to have Andrew Garratt as a new management committee member. Andrew has a wide range of communication, policy and research skills and experience along with an excellent understanding of the workings of Government and Parliament. He has already helped us to publicise Cued Speech to MPs.

Staff member Lucy Mattison-Nottage left us in January to join another organisation nearer to home. As our first Information Officer Lucy defined the role within the organisation; she was exceptionally efficient and always cheerful. Whilst we will miss her day-to-day presence in the office we are delighted that she has agreed to become a member of our management committee, swapping her paid role for an unpaid one. Lucy was co-opted at the last committee meeting. Her knowledge of the organisation, her media contacts and her energy and enthusiasm will be invaluable.

We are very pleased to welcome Steve Culverhouse as our new Information Officer. Steve is a former teacher of English, sociology and media studies and is also a musician who gives regular local performances. Steve has been thrown in at the deep end efficiently organising a mail-out of information to schools and interested organisations and he has already started to learn to cue.

Membership Renewal

Thank you to those who renewed their membership in the new year. The minimum rate covers the cost of the newsletter. A special thanks to those who gave more than the minimum - these funds help us to continue to provide information about and training in Cued Speech to a wider audience. Those who have not paid will find a reminder with this newsletter.

Donation from Lincoln

A huge thank you to Lincoln College for their generous donation of £690. Parent Emma Smith (below left, holding baby Zeb) is pictured receiving the cheque from college students. Emma was instrumental in setting up a recent Cued Speech course in Lincoln



which she attended with family members. Our grateful thanks to everyone involved.

Video Nation Project

Could you demonstrate some cueing and talk passionately about Cued Speech and what it means to you? It may be possible to take part in the Video nation project to promote Cued Speech through one of the BBC's 42 *Where I live* sites: www.bbc.co.uk/england/. Usually a camera is loaned for a week or two then the film is edited to two minutes. A demonstration and some training is given and samples can be seen at www.bbc.co.uk/videonation/ in the archive section.

Tutors are needed

Would you like to train to become a tutor? After attending our courses the first step is to obtain certificates in the proficiency of Cued Speech. Exams are offered at Improvers and Advanced levels.

Help us fundraise by booking your holiday online



Arrange your holiday through the Cued Speech Association UK webshop and we'll receive £60 on the average family holiday.

There are a number of big name travel agents supporting our fundraising. With the arrival of Thomson Flights and Portland Direct in our webshop we now have more agents offering holidays to more countries.

If you, your family or relatives are planning to take a holiday have a look at www.buy.at/CuedSpeech and we'll earn commission! So, take 5 minutes out; visit our webshop and indulge in some well-earned rest.

Cued Speech

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



Cued Speech in Finland

Cued Speech Conference in Finland - Helsinki, January 2006



Maija Lindström, now 5 years old, was diagnosed

as deaf in Paris where her Finnish parents were living. In Paris Maija had the opportunity to benefit from LPC (the French version of Cued Speech). She thrived. On the family's return to Finland her mother Leena was determined that other children should have the same opportunities and she was instrumental in arranging the conference to inform parents and professionals.

The conference included Leena's inspiring personal story and two presentations written by Pam Beck, the first about the history of Cued Speech and its current use and the second looking at the use of Cued Speech with children who have additional special needs. Unfortunately Pam was not able to be present. There was also a presentation by Anne Worsfold which included both an over-view of research and a look at her family's use of Cued Speech.

Cued Speech and cochlear implantation. One of the highlights of the conference was a talk looking at the needs of deaf children with cochlear implants given by Chantelle Descourtieux, director of CodALI, a Parisian service which supports severely and profoundly deaf children and young people from birth.

All the children supported by CodALI:

- are supported by the use of LPC within the family and at school
- are encouraged to use oral language
- use hearing aids or implants
- are integrated into mainstream schools (with several deaf children in each school)
- have additional sessions at CodALI
- have access to a multi-disciplinary support team.

There is a strong partnership between schools and CodALI which includes support for professionals within the school and the provision of Cued Speech Translitterators (for silent transmission of the whole of the lesson).

Within the first few years of use they found that:

- with LPC mainstream education is accessible to profoundly deaf children
- LPC improves the language levels of children
- LPC encourages the effective use of residual hearing

- LPC does not limit lip-reading capacity
- LPC allows the child to develop a phonological system which can be used to access reading.

By 1998 most of the children were implanted. The advantages were that oral communication could be spontaneous and intelligibility was improved. But without LPC problems remained. These included:

- the children's linguistic experiences (before and after implants) were still limited
- the problems of noisy environments.

In these situations language comprehension could be approximate (for example *I was questioned at school* was heard as *I was arranged/tidied at school*). In addition children's expression was syntactically impoverished.

For these reasons LPC continues to be used with implanted children. Currently:

- more parents and professionals are using LPC; CodALI encourages and gives guidance on its use to all parents
- from the age of 5 children are explicitly taught LPC
- high priority is given to polishing skills in receiving LPC (with and without voice) in both individual and group speech therapy.

An evaluation of the children's language showed that educational results, lexical levels, and comprehension levels are 'satisfactory' or 'very satisfactory' for the majority of pupils. Children are in the school class level according to their class age and their use of language mirrors that of hearing children.

In summing up Mlle Descourtieux said that:

- LPC was initially defined as a help to lip-reading, but amongst deaf implanted children it is now defined as the essential complement to hearing
- LPC codes are easy to learn and can be used by all those who speak to the child, most importantly within the family
- with the use of LPC, learning oral language is more rapid and natural
- Children benefiting from LPC read using the same methods as hearing children. They thus become totally autonomous in their access to information and culture.

She concluded by saying that it is the combination of the implant and visual access to language through LPC which makes it possible to master oral language and thus enable deaf children's integration into hearing society.

Cued Speech

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Forthcoming courses 2006

Residential courses with crèche:		
Date	Location	Level
31 July - 4 August (5 days)	Exeter	<i>Foundation Improvers Children's French Cuers*</i>
1 - 3 August (3 days)		<i>Skills Development</i>
Non-residential courses will be held in the following areas:		
Lincoln (Foundation and Improvers), Blackpool, Manchester, Oldham, Leigh-on-Sea, Stockton-on-Tees, Eastbourne, Ipswich, Gainsborough, Middlesbrough, London & Canterbury (Advanced).		

**For French users of LPC who have some English skills.*

Additional courses can be arranged in any area if there are 6 or more people wishing to learn. If you are interested in a course in any of the above locations or in us arranging a course in another area – GET IN TOUCH.

Every effort will be made to run all courses as advertised, but please note the Association cannot guarantee that no changes will be made.

For further course information please contact Kim, details opposite.

Presentations & Exhibitions included:

Attended:

Families Day, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, 11 January
CS International Seminar, Finland, 13 January
Eggbuckland Community College H.I. Unit, Plymouth, 25 January
Macclesfield Hospital Audiology Dept, Macclesfield, 16 February
Dorset Hard of Hearing Club, Ferndown, 18 February
RSD Families Day, Cheadle Hulme, 5 March
BATOD, National Conference, London, 11 March
Trainee Teachers of the Deaf Presentation, Manchester, 1 April
ACE Committee Meeting, London, 7 April.

Forthcoming:

City Lit Deaf Day, London, 22 April
Deaf Awareness All Party Conference, London, 3 May
Sound-Site Exhibition, Glasgow, 3 - 5 May
Salcombe School Staff Presentation, Devon, 18 May
NDCS Annual Conference, Birmingham, 16 June
The Ear Foundation, Nottingham, 26 June
RNID Staff Training, London, 27 June
NDCS Family Fun Day, Birmingham, 1 July

Cued Speech - complete spoken language through vision

Cued Speech is a simple sound-based system which uses eight handshapes in four positions near the mouth, together with the lip patterns of normal speech so as to make all the sounds of spoken language fully comprehensible to deaf babies, children and adults.

Cued Speech Association UK

is a charity which was established in 1980 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
- creating and disseminating information
- working with other organisations and statutory bodies.

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This Newsletter is produced quarterly. We welcome comments, articles and news of your events. Please send copy to arrive by the beginning of the month of publication. Copy for the next edition should arrive by 1st June 2006.

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

