

Cued Speech Association UK Newsletter



Complete spoken language
through vision

Spring 2011
Issue 47

Summer Camp Funding

We were delighted recently to receive a grant of £11,676 from Hilton in the Community Foundation towards the cost of our Summer Camp at Bicton College this year. With the current economic climate making funding particularly difficult to obtain, this grant underwrites the cost of providing this much-needed and extremely well-attended training event. It also allows us to continue to subsidise training so that the families who need to use Cued Speech with their deaf children are able to learn it in the supportive environment at Summer Camp. Our Children's Course at Camp is part-funded by HSBC Global Education Trust and we send our grateful thanks to both funders.



Cued Speech for three years. John Mulcahy was particularly helpful and Cued Speech users owe him and the committee an immense debt of gratitude. It was wonderful to meet up again and the Gala was fantastic."

Using Cued Speech in Exams

We have recently heard of two decisions about the use of Cued Speech in exams. Paul Simpson, National Executive Officer, British Association of Teachers of the Deaf tells us that The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has confirmed that Cued Speech can be used for the speaking component of modern foreign language exams. Meanwhile Catherine Young, a Devon Teacher of the Deaf, requested clarification of the use of a Cued Speech Transliterator (CST) for a profoundly deaf student in SATs Maths exams; she tells us that Julie Mather from the Ear Foundation contacted the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency (QCDA) who confirmed that a CST could be used. See the full reply: <http://soundingboard.earfoundation.org.uk/forum/topic.php?id=329>. We would be pleased to hear of any other use of CSTs in exams so that we can pass information on to users.

The early days of Cued Speech re-visited

June Dixon-Millar, the founder of our charity, was invited by Kevin Williams, Chief Executive of KIDS, to be a guest at a Gala Dinner to mark the 40th anniversary of KIDS on 10th March. KIDS is a charity which supports disabled children and young people and their families, and they provided a base and resources which enabled June to establish the Association (then The National Centre for Cued Speech) in 1975.



June said: *"It was a wonderful opportunity to meet Kevin Williams and his staff and the people who supported Cued Speech in the 1970s. These included: [from left to right] John Mulcahy, MBE, who was the Director; Lord Northampton (then Earl Compton), who was then the Chairman; and Sir James Spooner who was Vice-Chairman. KIDS supported the National Centre for*

Cued Speech and cochlear implants

Anthony Jefferson, who was one of the first three UK children to receive Cued Speech 40 years ago, contacted us recently to tell us that he still wanted access to Cued Speech even after his successful cochlear implant. He writes: *'It was reported that "due to the success of digital hearings aids and cochlear implants" deaf people do not need as much support! But we felt that they were missing the point when the profoundly born deaf - like myself - only hear 30-35% better; that makes me more or less on the same level as deafened people. It creates problems as our brain does not wake up as hearing over night as we were not born hearing.'* (continued overleaf)



It has been 40 years since Cued Speech was introduced to Anthony Jefferson and Emma Iiffe (née Tumim) at River House, Hammersmith in 1971. This picture of them was taken at a party last year!

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



The Cued Speech Interview

Nicholas Orpin's second interview with people in the Cued Speech world is with Thomas Shull.



Tom is a Cued Speech tutor, Transliterator, inspiring and entertaining international speaker, and Transliterator trainer. He is travelling from America again to run our 2 day Experienced Cuers' Course and various classes at our Summer Camp (both in Devon in August - see back page).

So, how the devil are you?

Life is good. I finished my Master's degree in speech-language pathology. I'm now a speech therapist with children aged 11-17 in public schools in Boston, Massachusetts. The last few years have been challenging – juggling school, work, and home.

Have the last 12 months been good for you?

One of the most exciting things has been the publishing of *Cued Speech and Cued Language for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children* edited by Carol LaSasso, Kelly Crain, and Jacqueline Leybaert. Dr. Crain and I co-authored a chapter. It was great collaborating with him and this new volume on Cued Speech is exciting. Cued Speech is a subject that consistently keeps my interest and always yields more to learn.

What's coming up on the horizon?

I've been working with Dr. Brad Buran on a new Cued Speech website for new cuers, families, speech therapists, Transliterators, and the general public. We're trying to listen to the community and provide the services they're looking for. We want it to be interactive, evolving, and powered by the people who use it. It's been a few years in the making and we're really excited about it. We hope to launch this summer.

3 reasons to be cheerful?

Good health - reality television - knowing everything always works out in the end.

Any reason to be miserable?

No need to be miserable. However, I wish Cued

Speech Summer schools (especially in the U.S.) would follow England and France by incorporating cheese and wine. As payment for transliteration, I'd gladly accept a block of French or Devonian cheese.

When you explain Cued Speech to someone, what do you say?

I never explain it the same way twice anymore. I almost never describe it as clarifying lip patterns unless I'm talking to someone whose concern is deafness after language has already been acquired. My new favourite way to explain Cued Speech (CS) to speech therapists (SLTs) is to compare it to the features we use to hear sounds distinctly. I explain what is available to the deaf person (lip patterns) and what is not available (vocal cord vibration, nasal sounds, etc.). I help them understand what is lost (the guess work of lip reading) and show them how we introduce visual contrast with handshapes and placements. It's a subtle difference to present CS as making the building blocks distinctive versus clarifying lip patterns. The latter implies to me that the receiver already knows the sounds but needs help identifying which one you intended. I see the lip pattern and cue as a single unit. After all, hearing people don't think of vocal cord vibration as a way to clarify the production of /p/ and /b/. When SLTs see how CS works like all other modalities for communication, they then see it as more organic than they may have previously believed.

And the one person who really needs to hear that is?

It may not be a single, Oprah-like person. To effectively improve deaf education, we have to change the perspectives of many people (e.g. parents, teachers, early interventionists, speech therapists, audiologists, administrators, etc.). This will not be accomplished by a small group of people. It will take a coordinated, concerted effort.

What are you reading at the moment?

Lots of children's literature and my notes from graduate school.

Twitter or Facebook?

Neither.

Anything else to declare?

Not at this time.

Cued Speech and cochlear implants (continued from front)

'After 8 years of having a cochlear implant I still watch subtitles on TV to double check and cannot use the mobile as it's too confusing. I'm only beginning to read the papers by looking down while the TV is on so hopefully one day I will hear the radio properly - who knows?'

better than those who don't, myself and the others still need visual cues to correct the similar sounds such as /sh/ /ch/ /j/ and /zh/. It is still useful to have an occasional reminder and it is still fun exploring sounds and new words.'

'Although it is a well known fact that those who know Cued Speech before having a cochlear implant do

'YES we are DEAF still, even with CI's. When we take off our CI's we are stone deaf, at least I know I am...'

Cued Speech

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



Government changes - parent power is needed!

Anne Worsfold, Cued Speech Association Executive Director, writes: This government is committed to reform! They currently propose widespread changes in areas which directly affect deaf children, including: the National Health Service, Social Care, and Education. And at a time of cuts to all budgets! It is unclear how far the changes will mask cuts and how much the changes will cause problems in their own right.

A proposed new approach for all children with Special Education Needs (SEN) has been set out in a Green Paper (a government consultation document) published by the Department for Education. The Green Paper: 'Support and Aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability' has ambitious aims which include: increasing parental choice and control, reducing bureaucracy on a number of levels, increasing partnership working, improving staff training and increasing support for young adults.

Key points include:

- ◆ a move to a single assessment procedure covering education, health and social care
- ◆ the option of a personal budget (it is unclear what this might cover) by 2014 for all families with a statement of SEN or the new 'Education, Health and Care Plan'
- ◆ a change in the way in which parents negotiate support with Local Education Authorities
- ◆ a welcome commitment to continued funding of 'short breaks'.

The Cued Speech Association will be responding to the Green Paper and whilst the aims are very positive some of the details are worrying. For example: it is not at all clear how some of the proposals will work in practice, their 'early diagnosis' is too late for deaf children, and although the Green Paper sets out how the SEN assessment process could be made less adversarial it does not appear to make decision-making more transparent and accountable; finally 'Banded Funding' appears to break the link between the child's need (as assessed by the new Education, Health and Care Plan) and services.

In the forward to the paper Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education and Sarah Teather, Minister of State for Children and Families wrote: *'We encourage you to respond to our consultation. If you are a parent, or someone caring for a disabled child or a child with special educational needs, please talk to your friends and family and let us know whether our proposals will make things better for you. If you are a teacher, a health professional or an expert in this field, we want you to discuss our proposals with your colleagues and give us your views on whether they will make the system better.'*

I encourage you to respond too! You have until the end of the consultation period on 30 June to respond personally. And/or share your thoughts with me, by end May please, by phone or email - AnneWorsfold@cuedspeech.co.uk - and I will incorporate them into our Cued Speech Association response. I am already indebted to parent Sarah Collinson for her input – thank you Sarah.

The Green Paper can be downloaded free at <http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8027/8027.pdf>

Changes at the NHS

Nicholas Orpin, Cued Speech Association UK's Development and Fundraising Officer, has been looking at the NHS changes; he writes: *'Started under Labour but a cornerstone of coalition policy, the changes at the NHS and the roll-out of Personalisation of Healthcare is the biggest single change in the NHS's 60 year history. By 2012 all GP practices must be part of a local commissioning consortia which will decide on what services are available in your area, replacing the role of the PCTs. Personalisation is designed to put the individual at the centre of his/her care by evaluating the level of help needed with the possibility of self-managing a budget. Services are expected to become more localised with as many as 400-500 consortia replacing the 157 PCTs. What is deemed important to maintain by one group may not be for another. 'Consumers' - the parents of deaf children - may be able to influence the support available.'*

Already campaigns have resulted in David Cameron announcing a 'natural break' before the Bill reaches its final stages in the Commons. He said: 'We are taking this time to pause, to listen, to reflect and to improve our NHS modernisation plans.'

To influence service choices you could join a Patient Participation Group, or Patient Panel at your Local Health Centre. For more information contact Nicholas: NicholasOrpin@cuedspeech.co.uk

Cuts to Local Authority funding

Local Authorities fund education for our deaf children and their funding is being cut by central government. This has been highlighted by the NDCS in the spring issue of their 'NDCS Families Magazine'. They say: 'Councils in England are cutting services by 28% and deep cuts are also planned in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland'. They go on to say 'Deaf children risk being hardest hit as they are small in number and easily forgotten'. To support the NDCS campaign against the cuts go to: www.ndcs.org.uk/network.

Cued Speech

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



Courses and Workshops

| Dates | Location | Level |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| 22 June 2011 | Nottingham | One-day Workshop (Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists (RCSLT) Quality Assured) |
| 28 & 29 July 2011 | Bicton College Devon | 2 day Experienced Cuers' Course (residential option) |
| 30 July - 3 August 2011 | Residential Summer Camp Bicton College Devon | Foundation Improvers Advanced English for French cuers Children's course Day-time crèche |
| 23 September 2011 | London | One-day Workshop (RCSLT Quality Assured) |
| 23 November 2011 | Nottingham | One-day Workshop (RCSLT Quality Assured) |

One-day Workshops include: 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 who just want a 'taster' **OR** professionals who need to pass on accurate information to parents. Workshops cost £80 per person **OR** are costed for a group (please enquire).

2 day Experienced Cuers' Course will include a variety of sessions including cueing techniques, transliteration and teaching skills. It is suitable for anyone who can already cue.

Summer Camp offers tuition for all levels including complete beginners. After classes you can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities using Bicton College's wonderful facilities. Travel daily or stay on-site. 5 nights full board is approximately £150 per adult, half price for children. Tuition fees are £145 per person. The Children's Course is free to deaf children and their siblings. The crèche is staffed by experienced child-care professionals who use Cued Speech, BSL or both.

Make sure you book well before the deadline of 1st July to reserve your place at this very popular event.

Training on demand. Don't wait until there is a course in your area; contact us to talk about organising a workshop or course for your group.

Costs a problem?

The Family Fund, which provides support for families with disabled children, will fund holidays. If the Summer Camp is your main holiday they might consider funding. They have also recently changed their income criteria. For more information visit their website: www.familyfund.org.uk

or
Contact us if the cost of accommodation and/or fees are a problem. We are committed to ensuring access for all.

Contact: For general enquiries or to book training contact Kim Fricker: training@cuedspeech.co.uk or 01803 832 784.
To discuss training options contact Anne Worsfold: 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
- creating and disseminating information
- working with other organisations.

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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 June 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.

