

Cued Speech Association UK Newsletter



Complete spoken language
through vision

Winter 2006
Issue 31



Seasons greetings



New Information leaflet

The new Auditory Neuropathy/Auditory Dys-synchrony leaflet, which expands on the information in our summer 2006 newsletter, is now available.

Other leaflets cover the following subjects:

1. Cued Speech experiences and general information
2. Cued Speech use with deaf babies
3. Cued Speech use with deaf children
4. Cued Speech in education
5. Cued Speech and cochlear implantation
6. Cued Speech use with deafblind people
7. Cued Speech for hearing children with speech and language problems
8. Cued Speech use with deafened people
9. Cued Speech and sign languages achieving full bilingualism
10. Cued Speech research findings
11. Cued Speech and literacy.

If you would like a copy of any of the leaflets they are available to download from our website - or contact the office for a printed copy.

Booklet

Our 16 page booklet 'An Introduction to Cued Speech' has been redesigned in full colour. Would you like a copy? It is free to parents of deaf children, deaf people and to professionals who will make them available to those who could benefit from Cued Speech. The cost to others - at a special charity price - is a modest £2.



Access to Communication in English (ACE) Campaign

Inside is a report of the work done by the ACE campaign and their recommendations to improve the access to qualified Language Service Professionals (LSPs) for deaf people whose preferred language is English. The report includes recommendations for Cued Speech Transliterators (CSTs) and over the coming months the CSAUK will be working to make the recommendations a reality.

Welcome to Marion

Our Information Officer, Steve Culverhouse, has reduced his hours, and we are delighted that Marion China has joined us as Administrator. Marion, whose previous experience includes office management and nursing, will take over some of Steve's work and also help with general administration in the office.



Marion China

Subscription time again

Members will find a renewal form included with this newsletter. A huge 'thank you' to all the members last year who paid more than the minimum membership fee by way of a donation. Because of increasing costs the membership fee has been raised to a very modest £10 but we hope that many members will continue to give more to help us with our important work.

Are you a member?

We send this newsletter to some non-members, mainly other organisations or those who have requested a course. Would you like to join the association? You would contribute to the cost of the newsletter and would be eligible to have a say in the running of the organisation. Please contact the office.

Save the planet - save our costs!

Would you like subsequent newsletters by email only? If so please email info@cuedspeech.co.uk

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



Access to Communication in English (ACE) Campaign

Access to Communication in English (ACE) Campaign

The aim of the Access to Communication in English (ACE) Campaign is to promote Language and Communication Access Services for deaf people whose preferred language is English. The UK Council on Deafness (UKCoD), the national umbrella body for organisations working with deaf people, has coordinated the work of a consortium of organisations, including the Cued Speech Association UK.

A number of publications have been produced and a report containing recommendations and conclusions was launched at the UKCoD conference on 7th November. The report lists a number of successes including... *'The unification of qualifications by CACDP is leading to more flexible training opportunities and multi-qualified professionals. The recently established ACE Independent Registration Panel will promote and protect the essential high professional standards. Leaflets have been produced and distributed by RNID, on behalf of the campaign, that provide careers advice for those considering training to be a Language Service Professional (LSP) and guidance to service providers and employers about their duties under the DDA. A training programme for Cued Speech Translitterators is being established in the UK for the first time. The aim of the recommendations in this report is to develop and build on these successes.'*

The report also included specific information about Cued Speech Translitterators: *'There is a small but growing need for Cued Speech Translitterators (CSTs). Currently there is a scarcity of skilled cuers who are able to transliterate and no qualifications in Cued Speech Transliteration. The consequence of this is that many deaf people whose first choice would be to use a CST opt for another LSP despite the fact that this meets their needs less well. Users of Cued Speech should have the right to access the most suitable LSP. QCA-accredited qualifications for CSTs (and the relevant training) are under development and it is expected that this will be complete by mid-2007. Training for tutors is a priority.'*

The report recommended: *'Qualifications for CSTs to be accredited by October 2007; suitable training is made available to tutors and the training and certification of the first cohort of CSTs is completed by 2009.'*

The conclusions included: *'The recommendations have been designed to be achievable within three*

years. However the lack of provision is so deep-rooted that the real solutions needed are much more long-term than that. In many ways we are only scratching at the surface by seeing an increase in LSPs measured in 10s as a success. The recent achievement in increasing BSL/English Interpreter provision illustrates this: a doubling of registered BSL/English Interpreters in 3 years now gives a ratio of about 1 registered interpreter per 100 sign language users.....'The ratio of English language based LSPs to potential users in the UK is so high as to be almost statistically meaningless, somewhere in the region of 1 registered LSP to 100,000 potential users. Such is the magnitude of the challenge we face.'

A case study in the report illustrated the need for CSTs:

"As a profoundly deaf student brought up using Cued Speech I communicate in English; however in education I still need additional support because of the difficulties in lip-reading teachers and lecturers. I've used many different methods to access education including Cued Speech Translitterators (CSTs), electronic notetakers and notetakers. One of the things that highlighted the differences between the support methods was when I visited universities to decide where to take my physics degree. Notetakers can work well in lectures but when touring university laboratories the notetaker struggled to find a surface on which to write and I could not read what she was writing. Also, as no-one is capable of writing as fast as people can talk, the note taker had to condense information down and since physics frequently has obscure jargon she often condensed the wrong bits of information.

"On two university visits I used a CST and the fact that the CST could cue in any location without being limited by equipment constraints was extremely useful when attending talks in labs and walking around the campus. Also the CST was able to transliterate as fast as people could talk, using exactly the same words, giving me the same access to the subject as a hearing person. In some situations a notetaker is a good choice, but in others only a CST will give me full access. At the moment I can't use CSTs as much as I would like to because of the difficulty in finding or training good translitterators, but in the future I would like to see more available so deaf people can take advantage of the benefits offered."

Thanks to Cate Calder and Anne Worsfold for their work with the ACE campaign.

Cued Speech

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



Editorial - the scandal of the acceptance of delayed language

Editorial - Personal thoughts from Anne Worsfold

How wrong can professional advice be? On my desk is an article which was published some time ago and which still pains me. It also inspires me to try my best to make things better for deaf children and their families. The article, in a magazine for parents of deaf children, is a question and answer session with hearing parents of a deaf child – a child with apparently no other problems.

The parent was asked 'what is some of the best advice that you have been given?' They replied that the advice was: 'that there is no quick-fix; that her development is going to be slow and sweet and at times painful; to have hope for the future....'

This is the worst piece of advice I have ever heard. And to make matters worse the advice came from their child's teacher of the deaf – the very person who should be looking for ways to ensure that the child's development is NOT 'slow....and at times painful'.

I would have advised the parents: 'Do not accept that delayed language is part and parcel of deafness. It does not have to be so. Deaf children can have normal language development IF they have early and complete access to language. Cued Speech in the hands of hearing parents can give full and complete access to English just as BSL in the hands of deaf parents can give access to sign.'

The parent went on to write: 'as parents we subconsciously tend to compare our (deaf) children with other hearing kids and feel bad at the huge gap in their development'. This statement makes me feel even sadder. As the parent of two profoundly deaf cueing children I compared them to their hearing peers and, whilst their diction was poor in the early years (they are very deaf!) I knew that their language levels – in written and spoken English - were at least equal and in some areas better than their friends. In contrast with the parents in the article I felt only happiness when I compared my children with hearing children. I wish that, and I work towards the goal that, all parents will

have such positive experiences and all deaf children will have the same opportunities as mine and other cueing children.

But why do teachers, of all people, encourage low expectations? The teacher in the case above had a pupil who was a toddler, whose language delay was recoverable – IF she had access to language.

Teachers who work in schools must work with the child's existing language level but even then low expectations may adversely affect pupil's achievements. Forgive me for telling another personal

story: in my youngest child's final year at primary school (i.e. after having one or other of my two deaf children in school for 7 years) the head went on her first deaf awareness training day. She came back amazed. She said to me later, *'I didn't know deaf children had problems with English, or with literacy or with understanding the curriculum... I kept saying, well, I've got two profoundly deaf children in my school and they are not like that...I wonder how I*

would have been with them if I had known all this before they came'. I wonder too. Of course, through Cued Speech, the boys had full access to the lessons; but were my children's achievements (literacy and grammar considerably better than age appropriate in comparison to hearing peers) in some way helped by the head's ignorance of the accepted expectations of deaf children? I suspect that they were.



Anne and her sons, Mark (left) and Jonathan (right)

Can you help with a case study?

We would like some case studies of cueing children and adults to use in publicity and to demonstrate what can be achieved through Cued Speech.

Providing us with a case study need not take much of your time. If you call or email the office and chat through your own or your child's achievements we can draft a short text and you can refine it until you are happy with it. We will do all the donkey work. Personal stories are very important – and yours could make a huge difference to a family with a deaf child.

Cued Speech

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



Forthcoming courses 2006/2007

Residential Summer School with crèche 2007:

Date	Location	Level
23 - 27 July 2007 9.30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Exeter	<i>Foundation Improvers / Advanced French Cuers Children's</i>

Non-residential courses

Date	Location	Level
2 November 2006 for 5 weeks	Lamerton, Devon	<i>Improvers</i>
7 November 2006 for 6 weeks	Salcombe	<i>Foundation</i>
6, 13, 20 & 27 January 2007 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays	Blackpool	<i>Foundation</i>
7 February - 28 March 2007 7 - 9.30 p.m. on Wednesdays	N London	<i>Improvers</i>
12 - 15 February 2007 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	London	<i>Foundation</i>
16 - 20 April 2007 9.30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Exeter	<i>Foundation & Improvers</i>
Dates tbc	Scotland	<i>Foundation</i>

Do you want to learn to cue? Non-residential courses are continually being arranged nationally to meet demand, sometimes at short notice. 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 all course information and bookings please contact Kim, details opposite.

Cued Speech - complete spoken language through vision

Cued Speech is a simple sound-based system comprising eight handshapes, used in four positions near the mouth, in conjunction with the lip patterns of normal speech so as to make all the sounds of spoken language fully comprehensible to deaf and hearing-impaired people.

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.

Contact details:

9 Jawbone Hill Dartmouth
Devon TQ6 9RW
Voice & textphone: 01803 832 784
Fax: 01803 835 311
E-mail: info@cuedspeech.co.uk
Web: www.cuedspeech.co.uk

Executive Director: Anne Worsfold
email: anne@cuedspeech.co.uk
Course Co-ordinator: Kim Fricker
email: kim@cuedspeech.co.uk
Project Secretary: Sue Tweed
email: sue@cuedspeech.co.uk
Information officers: Steve Culverhouse and Cate Calder
emails: steve@cuedspeech.co.uk and cate@cuedspeech.co.uk
Administrator: Marion China
email: marion@cuedspeech.co.uk
Accountant: Peter Allen

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 by 1st March 2007.

Presentations & Exhibitions included:

Attended:

British Association of Teachers of the Deaf (BAToD) Scotland, Edinburgh, 4 Nov.

Deafness Conference & Exhibition, UKCoD London, 7 November
Heads of Services Conference and Exhibition, Nottingham, 15-17 Nov.

Forthcoming:

BAToD National Conference, London, 10 March
CACDP Scotland Fair Scotland, 12 May

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

