



dig-it

Dyslexia information group in Tamworth

Our year

2013 to 2014

About Dig-iT

Community volunteer support group:

- ❑ We offer regular support drop-ins for dyslexic people of all ages and their families, for mutual support, information, advice and activities.
- ❑ We aim to raise awareness of dyslexia, its characteristics, co-occurrences and its wide ranging impact on society.
- ❑ We collaborate with other voluntary and statutory bodies.
- ❑ Promote practical solutions for people that are affected by dyslexia.
- ❑ Volunteers and committee members include dyslexic adults.
- ❑ We want to develop from the 'bottom up' to meet local need.

How we began

- ❑ Three parents with children at school got together.
- ❑ One-off 'drop-in' held in Philip Dix Centre in Sept 2011.
- ❑ 25 families attended - a group was needed.
- ❑ Monthly drop-ins started at Carnegie Centre in Jan 2012
- ❑ Dig-iT became a constituted group in April 2012.
- ❑ Additional drop-ins with Community Cafe at Kerria Centre from Autumn 2012.

Committee & Volunteers

2013-14

Chair: Julie Cappleman-Morgan

Secretary: Chris Perry

Treasurer: Gill Gardner

Volunteers:

Jean Hill

Peter Hill

Laura Hill

Rob Morgan

Matt McDermid

Louise Noakes

Wendy Patterson

Hannah Smart



Families supported / contacts

- ❑ 172 people on general mail out list since January 2012
- ❑ 35 new families contacted us April 2013-March 2014
- ❑ Carnegie Centre: 40% (14 people)
- ❑ Amington Community Cafe: 23% (8 people)
- ❑ Outreach (events/website/email): 37% (13 people)
- ❑ People referred from other agencies: 8.5% (3 people)
- ❑ New families visited /one-to-one support = 5
- ❑ Average no. of families at each drop-in: 10

Reasons for contact

- ❑ Adult = 11 contacts (31%)
- ❑ Child = 23 contacts (66%)
- ❑ Self & child = 1 contact (3%)
- ❑ Education = 26 contacts (74%)
 - ❑ Primary school 69%
 - ❑ Secondary school 11.5%
 - ❑ College / university 19.5%
- ❑ Employment = 4 contacts (11.5%)
- ❑ General = 7 contacts (20%)

Common enquiries

- ❑ Dyslexia traits = 65%
- ❑ Help at school = 43%
- ❑ Help at work = 5.5%
- ❑ Screening assessments = 31%
- ❑ Diagnostic assessments = 43%
- ❑ Visual stress info/overlays = 23%
- ❑ School Action / SA+ = 20%
- ❑ Getting a statement = 6%
- ❑ Literacy help & tips = 17%



Finances



1. Income

Sources of Income	Amount
Donations	£237.00
Grants	£500.00
Fundraising	£610.00
TOTAL	£1347.00

3. 2013/14 Deficit

£281.47

4. 2012/13 surplus b/f

£352.98

2. Expenditure

Category	Amount
Venue / Pitch Hire	£397.00
Computer / Phone	£64.99
Insurance	£149.99
Craft / sales resources	£630.54
Courses (SEN Reforms event)	£50.00
Printing / promotion	£335.95
TOTAL	£1628.47

5. 2013/14 surplus

£71.51

Networking & collaboration

- ❑ Harmony Autism Group
- ❑ Pennymoor Youth Club
- ❑ SPOKEN Parents ADHD group
- ❑ SPAN (Staffordshire Parent Action Network)
- ❑ South Staffordshire College (community learning)
- ❑ Tamworth Dyspraxia Group
- ❑ Staffordshire Umbrella Network (SUN)
- ❑ Staffordshire Police (ASB project / Locality networks)
- ❑ Tamworth Library
- ❑ Tamworth Community Cafe / Fired Up Theatre
- ❑ Tamworth Learning Support Network (schools)
- ❑ Tamworth Borough Council (ARCH projects / Children & Communities)
- ❑ Tamworth Youth Service (ASB project etc.)



Activities developed



- ☐ **Social Media** (Now on Facebook @digitamworth)
- ☐ **Dyslexia screening service** (4-15 year olds)
- ☐ **Positively Different** (annual event)
- ☐ **Regular drop-in at Amington Community Cafe**
- ☐ **Youth Consultation** (ongoing)
- ☐ **Community participation** (locality network meetings / Community Learning Trust / Employment Action Group / Fired-Up Theatre / Community Together CIC)
- ☐ **Cook & Share Activity for children** (confidence & socialising)
- ☐ **Volunteer development** (literacy support / dyslexia awareness)



Memorable events

1. Tamworth ASB project May-July 2013

- Anti-social Behaviour Project was a run by Tamworth Police, Tamworth Borough Council, Staffordshire Youth Service and Learning Support Teams, aimed at teenagers at risk of anti-social behaviour orders.
- Dig-iT was invited by Tamworth Borough Council to observe sessions at Wilnecote Youth Centre and feedback on issues relating to dyslexia.
- Julie subsequently ran a Dyslexia Awareness 7 Learning Styles session for the young people.
- Staffordshire Police donated £40 to Dig-iT by way of thanks for the session.

2. Laptop donation from Tamworth Round Table (July 2013)



3. Summer community events

Amington Fete & Stonydelph Summer Fair Summer 2013



4. Positively Different Exhibition (11th & 12th October 2013)



Positively Different Exhibition (11th & 12th October 2013)



Positively Different Exhibition (11th & 12th October 2013)



5. Cook & Share 'taster session' Nov 2013



Dig-IT and Groundwork presents...

One Stop Community Centre,
Kerria Road
Amington
Tamworth
B77 4EW

COOK & SHARE

Saturday
9th Nov 2013
10am to 1pm
FREE

A fun cook-and-eat session for children aged up to 13 who have dyslexia/dyspraxia
Parents/carers and siblings welcome!

To book:
Dig-IT: 0753 451 3336
Email: office.tamdyslexia@gmail.com
Facebook: /Digitamworth Twitter: @Digitamworth

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Staffordshire County Council Tamworth Borough Council target: wellbeing LOTTERY FUNDED



6. Stonydelph Christmas Fair

December 2013



7. Dig-iT Christmas Party 2013



8. Cook & Share Course March - May 2014



Dig-iT and Groundwork presents...

One Stop Community Centre,
Kerria Road
Amington
Tamworth
B77 4EW

10 places
available to
book on a 'first
come, first
served' basis

COOK & SHARE

8th March
22nd March
5th April
19th April
3rd May

FREE

Fun cook-and-eat
course for children
aged up to 13 who
have dyslexia/
dyspraxia. Parents,
carers and siblings
welcome!

Saturdays from
10am to 12.30pm

To book:
Dig-iT: 0753 451 3338
Email: office.tamdyslexia@gmail.com
Deposit of £5 on the day, refundable if course completed

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Staffordshire
County Council

Tamworth
Borough Council

target:
wellbeing

LOTTERY FUNDED



Participation in other events

- Amington ARCH Easter community event April 2013
- Amington Fete, June 2013
- 'We Love Tamworth' event, Castle Grounds Aug 2013
- Wilnecote High School: Dyslexia assemblies Dec 2013
- Amington Arch Christmas Fair Dec 2013
- SPAN SEN event, Stafford, March 2014
- SEN Reforms Seminar with Dr Hilary Dyer Feb 2014



Policy & participation



Dig-iT took part in the following:

- ❑ **Staffordshire County Council's SEND & Vulnerable Children Strategic Framework Consultation**
- ❑ **SEN in Tamworth:**
 - ❑ Dig-iT collated DfE SEN support statistics for Tamworth's primary & secondary schools.
 - ❑ Low levels of SEN support seen alongside poor overall outcomes at some schools.
 - ❑ Stats shared with Deputy Mayor of Tamworth Borough Council ahead of scrutiny meeting later in 2014.
- ❑ **Meeting Christopher Pincher MP:** Concerns over lack of awareness, identification & appropriate support for dyslexia in some schools.

Future plans

- ❑ Adult Dyslexia Group (Stonydelph)
- ❑ Adult Community Literacy Pilot Project (Commences Apr 2014)
- ❑ Positively Different 2014 (Fired Up Theatre / Community Together)
- ❑ Expand presence at Community Cafes
- ❑ Youth Consultation
- ❑ Further 'taster' activities for children (BMX, crafts, drama)
- ❑ Volunteer development

Thanks to all the following for their support to Dig-iT throughout 2013-2014

Mark Aston, Amington ARCH

Lee Bates, Tamworth Community Cafe

Jen Bright, Groundwork

Mayor, Cllr Tina Clements, Tamworth Borough Council

Mayor, Cllr Simon Clements, Fazeley Borough Council

Yasser Din, Stonydelph ARCH

Sue Evans, tutor

Richard Evans, tutor

John Faulkner, Chartered Accountant

Mayor, Councillor John Garner, Tamworth Borough Council

Christine Howlett, Specialist Teacher

Laura Hastilow & Hannah McKenzie, Tamworth Assembly Rooms

Stephanie Ivey, Tamworth Borough Council

Debra Lewis, and the team at Tamworth Information Centre

Lizzie Morgan, Graphic Designer

Becki Morris, Dyslexia Support

Marri Griffin, Tamworth CVS

Christine Summerton, South Staffordshire College, Tamworth Campus

Tamworth Lions

Tamworth Round Table

Thank you



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