



Registered Charity No. 1114877



Winter 2011

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10th December –Christmas Party!



We know it seems a long way off but its.. (whisper)..**only 2 weekends away until our Christmas party!!!!** Gulp!

Please do let us know if you are coming -so we know how many kids to make cakes and snacks for!
Also this year we are planning a music & chill room for youngsters over 8 years of age! Fun for all!

See our website www.codpuk.org.uk for booking form and poster!

Thorpe Park



Did you miss our rollercoaster event of the year?! This was our first event at Thorpe Park –aimed at the older kids and it was an interesting day!

Sadly due to the high costs (even at subsidised prices), numbers were lower than expected but we are pleased to say 9 families plus two volunteers benefited from the social exchange and fun!

There was so much enthusiasm and excitement –kids or parents?! Both were really looking forward to the rides so they were at the gate ready to rush in knew exactly where they wanted to queue for the rides!

We were pleased to welcome one completely new family while the rest were regular CoDPuk members.

Most of the kids got together and got to know each other better sharing the experience and chatting while they queued and enjoyed the rides. Some parents bravely joined them on the most hair-raising rides and others took a chance to catch up and share experiences with other parents. It was a really fun day for all!

Thanks for all your help and Support!

....to Our Volunteers and Organisers

CoDPuk rely on our brilliant volunteers; we value all your hard work –thank you.

Funders & Supporters...

Deaf Access for their ongoing support thanks to Awards for All for funding us for 2010/11.

Also all our members for their support and donations.

Thank you!

Letter from the Chair

As we approach to the end of 2011, CoDPuk families are pleased to reflect on another enjoyable good year with some fantastic & successful events. The key to keeping CoDPuk vibrant and thriving is, our brilliant team and of course, fund raising. We have done our best to keep the costs down so we can give our members the opportunity for enjoyable family outings with other families in line with our ethos of positive life experiences for CODAs. We have proved that bringing families together have brought increased social skills– to the parents and their children. Our team are dedicated to continuing our good work and hope to be able to expand to new regions when the time is right.

So I must give special thanks to our key fund-raisers, Helen Farthing, Sue Craney, Martin Broomfield and Penny Pearce who have done a sterling effort to raise funds to keep CoDPuk afloat- despite the difficult economic climate. It is challenging to win grants with less funds to go round and competition between so many worthy charities. We shall keep on trying in 2012 in the hope that we can win a major grant for CoDPuk to expand. We get lots of emails from parents and even pleas directly from children in the UK asking for our support - unfortunately all of our volunteers live in the South East and they cannot operate remotely. There is a need to recruit new volunteers, train them up and fundraise so that when the time comes CoDPuk can support families in new regions!

Ant Clarke, our loyal Volunteer Treasurer has worked hard managing our funds and a special mention must go to Niall Fearon who kindly does the charity's auditing every year. Roger Hewitt, our trusted consultant keeps us in line with the ever changing world of charity law - making sure what we are doing is correct. William Clapham, our web master has done a sterling job to keep our website ticking over. Penny Pearce, our PR & Marketing expert has done an excellent job getting the attention of the public about our events. Helen Farthing has been particularly busy this year and is currently making sure we are fully updated with child protection and safeguarding. Finally a warm mention must go to Sue Craney, our newsletter editor, for producing entertaining newsletters to keep everyone informed of what CoDPuk are all about. Remember all are Volunteer! **Lastly, on behalf of CoDPuk, I wish you all a merry Xmas and a prosperous New year! Cheers, Dave**

Ed; Many thanks to our great Chairman too!

Follow us on facebook!



Penny Pearce

Fantastic Day Out in Butlins! Rain didnt hamper the spirits of 15 families enjoying themselves to the max! We all arrived in the morning, roamed the facilities, met up for lunch together and most of us went swimming mid afternoon for couple of hours utilising all the slides and boat chute etc and the toddlers had fun in the fountains and climbing apparatus etc! Some of us stayed on to have dinner before heading home!

Like · Comment · Follow post · 18 July at 09:42

Dave Ingham and 4 others like this.



Julia Mills thank you so much for the lovely day yesterday. It was good to see everyone and get to be like a big kid again !!! xxx

18 July at 09:53 · Like · 1 person



Marianne Melvin ty for organising such a fun day. My poor kids are worn out, had a job to wake them this morning lol

18 July at 10:17 · Like · 1 person

Write a comment...



Penny Pearce

Thank you to all those who have booked to go to Butlins! On the day details will be sent to those directly via email this week so please check your emails and any problems, please contact codpuk@gmail.com

Like · Comment · Follow post · 11 July at 10:33

Marianne Melvin likes this.



Marianne Melvin oooh cannot wait to go.. I'm more excited than the kids...lol! sad i know....

11 July at 17:39 · Like · 1 person

facebook



*Did you know we're on facebook!?
Type in 'Children of Deaf Parents UK' in the search field of facebook and then click to join the group - its free!*

Highly recommended because we post the latest news directly onto this page and we encourage forum style discussion on there too.

Check it out!

Please don't put personal questions or give too much personal information away about yourself– stay safe! For that its best email us directly ok!

Become a friend and follow CoDPuk on the internet!

Deaf Parents corner



Charlotte Moulton-Thomas wins Positive Deaf Parent's Award!

At **CoDPuk** we know how vital support for Deaf parents is so we are pleased to congratulate DPUK on their 10th Anniversary! It was wonderful to see them celebrate with an Awards ceremony to honour the positive contributions of Deaf Parents, parents to be and professionals who works with Deaf parents to our community. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and applaud the commitment, dedication and determination of Deaf parents and professionals (who work with Deaf parents) for their contribution to improve the quality of life for Deaf parents ranging from front-line service, community based and strategy levels.”



CoDPuk are thrilled to highlight some of our families & congratulate them on their fantastic achievement; being nominated, winning or being commended! All our families are doing the best they can & we are honoured to be part of their journey by offering positive life experiences & support for them & importantly; their children.

Positive Deaf Parents Award winner Charlotte Moulton-Thomas is a Deaf parent with two young sons – Jack, 12, who is hearing and Theo, 10, who has cerebral palsy, is deaf and a wheelchair user – both of whom are bright, engaging and a real credit to their mother. When children were young, Charlotte was raising them by herself which must have been incredibly challenging given their differing circumstances and needs. Charlotte has

had to constantly struggle to ensure that Theo receives the necessary support and services. This is hard enough for a hearing parent but even so for a deaf parent. Likewise she has had to cope in an all-hearing environment to make sure Jack is being supported at his mainstream school. Charlotte, however, never gives up & is constantly alert to any opportunity to improve and enhance the progress and wellbeing of both her boys. As Charlotte has said herself 'In this house there's no such word as 'can't!'

We were also particularly interested in the **Campaigner of Deaf Parent Award**, the Winner was Dr Joanna Downes who has campaigned about Deaf parents' rights and their responsibilities. Dr Downes utilised national and international legal framework when dealing with professionals to ensure they are made aware of their legal responsibilities in making their services accessible to Deaf Parents. She also campaigned on the following issues at a strategic level:

Bilingual education be considered and further developed for Deaf families in Leicester.

The Local Children's Safeguarding Board undertake an access audit of the services they provide to Deaf families in Leicester, previously Deaf families were not part of their "at risk" priority list.

That the education / employment / legal / medical / mental health services consider their legal duties under the Equality Act.

Those hearing children (Coda's) who have Deaf parents are not used by professionals to act as Interpreters.

Friend of Deaf Parents Award, Winner: Stuart Harrison won for the support he has provided another Deaf parent for several years to assist them through a multitude of complex emotional, legal, mental health, domestic violence issues. Stuart's support was pivotal to this Deaf parent. He maintained his sense of humour,



his respect, his knowledge, skills and experience. He was able to provide appropriate information, advice and guidance for this parent. He was available to "be there" for the parent when times were particularly challenging for several years. The parent concerned is now thriving and a fully functioning member of society, the parent is involved in community activities and professional work. Lastly **CoDPuk** say well done to everybody!





Winner is Alan Roberts BEM

Congratulations to partners Deaf Access' whose Trustee Alan Roberts -who was deafened at 19- won this years SpecSavers Soundbarrier Stars award! His award is for his long years of volunteering, fundraising (he was one of the group who set up Deaf Access) and campaigning for more Subtitles and Stage Text shows- seen here with the lovely Rula Lenska recently of Coronation Street fame now touring with Calendar Girls

*Do you know someone deaf or hard of hearing that you think deserves credit for what they do? **Why not nominate them next year?** £5 goes to Hearing dogs for every person put forward!*

Rula loves dogs and cuddled up to Victor - Sue Craney's hearing dog & Roger!



Volunteering is FUN! Can you help us? (All ages)

Would you like to join our Volunteer team? We are always pleased to have more support even if you can only do a few hours to help on the day, or to organize an event - something for everyone! Why not ask for more information?

Photos and Privacy

Privacy Act We respect your privacy and if you do not want to be included in any publicity photos, please do tell anyone taking photos at our events and we will try not to include you or your family.

CoDPuk Diary -2012

Christmas Party! **10th December**

Disco & chill room for youths
Fun & Father Christmas for younger ones!

2012 dates TBC

Bike Ride & Family weekend!

Hever Castle

Go Ape! Tunbridge Wells

Southend or Butlins?– **vote!**

And much more - watch out for updates in the New Year!

CoDPuk are here for you– do let us know what you would like to do as a family.

Remember we only have limited funding so idea's for Free/cheaper upbuilding fun events would be good too