

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

AMANDA KIRBY – GENE RESEARCH NIGHT – FEBRUARY 2009

Amanda Kirby's Gene Research Night in Rochestown Park Hotel was a great success. With the assistance of our Association and members she reached her target number to validate her research. She gave a presentation to all those who attended and answered questions afterwards. This was a great opportunity for our members to hear from an expert who is also a parent of a child with dyspraxia. We were delighted that the joint venture worked so well.

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AGM 2009/ HSE PHYSICAL AND SENSORY DATABASE

The AGM of the Dyspraxia/DCD Association Cork was held in the Rochestown Park Hotel on the 2nd of April. This was very well attended. Oona O'Shoughnessy gave an overview of the work of the Association.

The election of Officers of the Association was dealt with first. The committee is now comprised of:-

Chairwoman:	Oona O'Shoughnessy	Committee:	Ber O'Neill
Secretary:	Bernice Twomey	Committee:	Catherine O'Hara
Treasurer:	Doreen Santry	Committee:	Shirley Cuthbert
PRO:	Siobhan Corcoran	Committee:	Colette Smith

One member of the committee carries the Association phone at all times so there is always somebody available to members. If the phone is unattended your call will be returned as soon as possible. Emails to us will be answered on a daily basis except during the holiday seasons when things might take a little longer.

PHYSICAL AND SENSORY DATABASE

A discussion was held in relation to this matter on the same evening directly after the AGM. We informed parents that HSE do not currently have anyone employed to interview people for inclusion on the database. We explained that this can affect eligibility for the Domiciliary Care Allowance. As a result the Association have been granted status to interview parents who wish to have their child included on the database. The committee made themselves available to complete the relevant forms on that night. We subsequently forwarded completed forms to the HSE South.

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'LETS GO' SUMMER CAMP

The 'Lets Go' Summer Camp was a great success. This took place in August and approximately twelve kids took part and they enjoyed themselves immensely.



PRACTICAL TIPS FOR PARENTS AND TIPS FOR TEENS BOOKLETS

A large quantity of these booklets were made available to the DCD Unit, St. Finbarrs Hospital, The Early Intervention in Limerick and Enable Ireland.



BAG PACKING –MARKS AND SPENCERS – 23rd Oct.

A big thank you to all those who participated in the bag packing which was kindly organised by one of our members, Catherine Buckley. Catherine put a lot of time and effort into organising this fund raising event. It was a great success. Having funds in the kitty allows us to subsidise activities and events.



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The Committee attended an information evening on assistive technology held in CIT in October. This is a joint venture between CIT and UCC to get students with disabilities to access Third Level Education. We were shown technology which is already available to students in Third Level and which they are trying to promote in Second Level now.

We will keep you posted on same.



NEW STYLE MEETINGS

New style monthly meetings continued through 2009. The Association meets in the Rochestown Park Hotel on the 2nd Thursday of the month, from Sep,t to June, in the bar area. Parents who feel like a chat will find other like minded mums and dads there. We have decided that two committee members will be available at these meetings each month on a rota basis. The new time is 8.30 – 10.00 p.m.



MUNSTER FOOTBALL FOR ALL

Munster Football for All have organised football sessions for boys and girls aged 7-14 with dyspraxia, cerebral palsy or co-ordination difficulties. These outdoor sessions on Astroturf include movement and co-ordination skills. They will be held in The Glen Resource Centre, Wednesdays, 4pm – 5pm on the following dates in 2010:- 20/1, 17/2, 24/3, 14/4, 12/5, 9/6, 7/7, 4/8, 8/9, 6/10, 3/11, 1/12

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