

THE ELSA NEWSLETTER

May/June/July 2003

Includes the EYDP Prize Competition – see below for details!!

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Welcome

This is the fourth ELSA electronic newsletter, we would like to welcome all our new subscribers and our existing subscribers and we hope you will find it of interest. For our first time readers in particular coming next is some basic information on the purpose of our newsletter.

The European Year of People with Disabilities (EYDP) 2003

The newsletter has been funded by the European Commission as part of the European Year of People with Disabilities 2003. Funding was granted to five European disability organisations representing the deaf, blind, autism, stuttering and intellectual disability. This was good news for pws and we at ELSA feel is an endorsement of all the good work carried out by many people in the stuttering field. The European Year is organised by the European Commission in collaboration with the European Disability Forum (EDF). The EDF is a European umbrella organisation representing more than 37 million disabled people in Europe. ELSA is a founding member of the EDF.

Disabled people are people with equal rights. Disabled people are workers, consumers, tax payers, politicians, students, neighbours, family and friends. But disabled people are not treated that way.

A recent European survey shows there is a serious lack of understanding of what disability means and how many people it affects. Disabled people should be treated as equal citizens who

have the power to speak for themselves, not as objects of pity or charity. Disabled people are often excluded from society through poor education and unemployment, leading to poverty.

2003 is an opportunity to change the future for disabled people. And a good future for disabled people means a good future for all people.

The People's March **and the EYPD Bus Tour in the UK, Ireland and Denmark**

As part of the EYPD a "Peoples March" is being organised during 2003 consisting of a Bus tour. The bus will be visiting every EU country. We ask everybody to find out when the bus is coming to your country, when it does let the EYPD organisers know what you are doing and ask for your stuttering events to be linked to the bus visit and for your activities to be put on the EYPD website.

The March started in Greece in January and will end in Italy in December.

Get on board! The bus is part of your campaign too! Find out when the bus visits your country – publicise your work on the bus and make your work part of the March. Or join in other activities around the bus. For more information on the bus and the events around it, get in contact with your [national campaign supporter](#).

As mentioned before, this is a fabulous opportunity to raise awareness of stuttering by advertising your work and events. It is free advertising paid for by the Commission.

“GET ON BOARD!”

Over the next 2-3 months the March and bus will be visiting the UK, Ireland and Denmark. Here are the contacts:

The march visits the **UK** during 2 June - 2 July

More info about the march in United Kingdom:

Mrs Anne Pridmore
UK Disability Forum for European Affairs
85, Frampton Street,
London, NW8 8NQ
tel: +44 (0) 20 7725 4242,
fax: +44 (0) 20 7725 4243
E-mail: llamedos@enna.fsnet.co.uk
Tel: 07734440093

National coordinating body:

The UK's National Co-ordinating Body
Mr. Peter Coyle
Disability Unit,
6th floor
The Adelphi
1-11 John Adam Street
London WC2N 6HT
Tel: +44.207.962.85.20
Fax: +44.207.962.86.47
E-mail: Peter.Coyle@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

The march visits **Ireland** 2 July - 9 July

More info about the march in Ireland:

Mr Nigel Brander
PwDI
Richmond Square, Morning Star Avenue
Dublin 7
Ireland
E-mail: nigelbrander@hotmail.com , slong@pwdi.ie
Tel: +353 1 8721744

National coordinating body:

Winnie Brennan
EYPD Project Manager
National Disability Authority
25 Clyde Road
Dublin 4
Phone : +353 1 608 0400 ext. 222
Phone: +353 1 608 0432 (direct line)
Fax: +353.1.660.11.05
E-mail: wbrennan@nda.ie

The march visits **Denmark** 12 July - 20 July

More info about the march in Denmark:

Mr Anders Reitov
De Samvirkende Invalideorganisationer (DSI)
Kløverprisvej 10B
2650 Hvidovre
Denmark
E-mail: ar@handicap.dk
Tel: +45 36 75 1777

National coordinating body:

Den Danske Nationalkomité for Handicapåret
Mr. Mogens WIEDEHOLT
Bredgade 25
Sct. Annae Passage, Opg.F,4.sal
1260 COPENHAGEN
Tel: +45.33.11.10.44
Fax: +45.33.11.10.82
E-mail: Mw@clh.dk
Website: <http://www.handicapaar.dk/>

The 4th ELSA Youth Meeting – A few places left!

There are still places for young people who stutter to attend the 4th ELSA Youth Meeting. The cost is only 100 Euros for the week inclusive of food and accommodation plus you will be refunded 50% of your travel expenses after completing the week.

The meeting will start on Sunday evening 13 July and end on Saturday morning 19 July. It will take place in Nijmegen/Netherlands. The title of the meeting is “**Extending Communications - Extending Borders**” The week will consist of workshops, presentations, discussions and social events. There will be lectures on the workings of a national stuttering association, lectures and exercises on preparing a web-site for a national stuttering association, plus non verbal communication workshops.

There are a few spaces left for this meeting. (As usual more boys have registered than girls. So come on girls decide what you are doing this summer and join the other girls from all over Europe who have already registered for the meeting...)

You will get to network with other European people who stutter, learn about the work of the national associations, share fears, frustrations and triumphs, practice your speech technique in a secure environment and engage in speaking experiences you may shy away from in your daily life.

Interested? You must be between 18 and 27 on 19 July 2003, live in Europe and be a member of your national stuttering association, speak and write some English as it is the working language of the meeting – if so please contact Anita Blom **immediately** at elsa.europe@telia.com

The ELSA Seminar on Stuttering Awareness in Strasbourg 17 – 19 October 2003

This seminar is part funded by the European Commission under the framework of the European Year of People with Disabilities (EYPD).

During this seminar delegates will discuss the topic of raising awareness of stuttering. Within the context of the EYPD we will explore what can be done to improve the conditions for people who stutter (pws) Europe wide. We will look at the how the increased use of the internet has provided for improved access to information for pws and their families. Additionally, we will explore how EU and national legislation can be of benefit to pws.

The meeting is planned to coincide with International Stuttering Awareness Day 22 October 2003. There will also be presentations of the work of the National Stuttering Associations.

Given that the meeting is part funded by the European Commission and is taking place in Strasbourg, the home of the European Parliament, ELSA anticipates it could be a high profile meeting and very appropriate for the EYPD.

Places on this seminar are being filled quickly. For further information please make contact with your national stuttering association or Konrad Schaefer at elsa@bvss.de.

The 2004 World Congress for People who Stutter

All details now available!

The 7th World Congress held by the Speak Easy Association of Western Australia, in conjunction with the Australian Speak Easy Association and the International Stuttering Association will be the main stuttering event at international level in 2004.

The second announcement has been released giving many details such as the programme, the cost and the keynote speakers.

Further details can be found at the following links:

www.2004worldcongress.speakeasy.org.au.

<http://www.2004worldcongress.speakeasy.org.au/abstracts.html>

Future Events

Denmark: Nordisk Stammeseminar 2003

September 11th-14th, 2003 in Odense

Info at www.fsd.dk

United Kingdom: BSA Silver Jubilee Conference 2003

September 12th-14th, 2003, Trinity and All Saints College, Leeds

The conference will bring people together to celebrate 25 years of the British Stammering Organisation. For information see www.stammering.org

Germany: 30th Bundeskongress der Stotterer-Selbsthilfe

The 30th Annual Congress of the German Stuttering Association will be held in Wuerzburg from October 2nd-5th, 2003. Guests from abroad are very much welcome. For details please see

www.buko.stottern.info

News in Brief

ELSA and European Disability Politics – Recent Developments

As a member of the the **European Disability Forum** ELSA is actively involved in European disability politics. ELSA Board members attended the EDF Annual General Assembly in Athens in May. One of the main items on the agenda was the implementation of the EU Framework Directive on equal treatment in employment and occupation which was adopted in November 2000 providing important protection against discrimination in the field of employment and training for 37 million disabled citizens in the European Union.

Directives are the most powerful tool the EU has forcing all member states to transfer EU regulations into national law. Member states are not too keen on having new Directives and it

usually takes many years for implementation to be successfully completed. The EDF together with European disability organisations have a close eye on how the individual member states advance with the implementation process.

Currently the EDF is lobbying for another Directive. The Disability Specific Directive is planned to cover all areas of the lives of people with a disability, unlike the Framework Directive which refers only to non-discrimination in employment and occupation. The success of a Disability Specific Directive are considered not good. Nevertheless, the EDF Assembly unanimously agreed to continue lobbying at both European and National level.

There was also plenty of discussion on the proposed EU Treaty, essentially a new constitution for the enlarged Europe replacing all the previous European treaties – Rome, Maastricht, Amsterdam and Nice. Disability organisations want to see robust references to non discrimination on the grounds of disability in the Treaty. Additionally the issue of Qualified Majority Voting will also be important. It is clear that there will be plenty of campaigning work to be done for disability organisations to ensure a satisfactory treaty that best protects the rights of disabled people.

For more information please see www.edf-feph.org Details of ELSA's contribution to the Disability Specific Directive can be found on www.elsa.info

OUTCOME OF THE RECENT EUROPEAN YOUTH CONFERENCE IN ATHENS

Over 200 young disabled and non-disabled participants came to a European Youth Conference in Athens entitled "Towards a barrier free Europe for young people with disabilities" Gina Waggott, Board Member (Youth Projects) of ELSA and BSA member, attended this meeting in Athens from 16 to 17 May 2003. The young delegates affirmed their commitment to the European Year of People with Disabilities 2003 and recognised the necessity to ensure full participation and equal opportunities for all young people taking into consideration their abilities and potential. They promoted the change of perspective on people with disabilities from the medical and charity model to a social model.

They noted that young people, particularly the most vulnerable such as people with disabilities are particularly susceptible to social, economical, political and cultural exclusion. They fully endorsed the **Madrid Declaration** (www.madriddeclaration.org), proclaimed by more than 600 participants to the European Congress of People with Disabilities in March 2002 in Madrid. This declaration provided a conceptual framework for action for the European Year of People with Disabilities at all levels, and more particularly to its general concept of **"NON DISCRIMINATION + POSITIVE ACTION = SOCIAL INCLUSION"**.

Gina will be writing a full report for ELSA on this meeting to be included in a future Voice of ELSA magazine or a later ELSA electronic newsnotes. The Declaration made by the delegates will soon be on the ELSA web-site www.elsa.info

Stuttering self-help in Greece – a new start?

When attending European events ELSA representatives always try to combine their trips with meetings with representatives of the respective National Stuttering Association. At last year's EDF Annual General Assembly in Madrid there was a meeting with some of our colleagues of TTM-España. In Athens this year, ELSA Board members had the good fortune to be invited to speak at a **seminar for Greek speech and language therapists** held by Sally Haworth that very weekend. Sally is a British Speech Therapist who has been living and working in Greece for many years now. She attended the World Congress 1995 in Sweden and has tried hard to set up self-help groups in Hellas. The Greek therapists were most interested in what they heard about self-help in stuttering and international cooperation between stuttering associations. Following the meeting, representatives of the SLP's association have been invited to the ELSA seminar on Stuttering Awareness in Strasbourg.

The EYPD Prize Competition

Win a free trip to Strasbourg, location of the next ELSA Seminar in 2003

In the previous newsletters we announced a competition – we will repeat the details again.

1st Prize

A free trip to Strasbourg, France on the occasion of the next ELSA Seminar in October 2003 (including travel and accommodation)

2nd Prize

100, - Euro (or the equivalent of your national currency)

3rd Prize

A bottle of ELSA Champagne

... and this is what you have to do:

At the end of each edition of the ELSA Newsletter there will be a question on either Stuttering or the EYPD. The answer will be either within the content of the Newsletter or the ELSA web-site. Make a note of the answers to all the questions. In August 2003 we will ask you to send in **ALL** the answers. The winners will be chosen randomly from those with all the correct answers. The judge's decision is final; no correspondence will be entered into.

The first prize includes return travel within Europe to Strasbourg. To be eligible to participate you must be a direct subscriber to this newsletter, a member of your national stuttering association, normally live in Europe and be aged 18 or over. Board members of ELSA are not eligible to participate.

The date of the ELSA seminar in Strasbourg is 17-19 October 2003.

[For question no. 4 go to the bottom of this newsletter!](#)

Miscellaneous

Call for information

In every newsletter we ask readers and national stuttering associations to share their stuttering activities. Proposals, past events, dates, pictures and reports are very welcome. Also please check if the information on the ELSA web-site about your National Stuttering Association still is up to date.

For the National Stuttering Associations Webmasters

To all the National Associations please advertise or place this ELSA Newsletter on your web-site, in your own newsletters and on your email list.

Has Your Association had an Annual General Meeting recently?

If so, your contact persons may have changed. To enable ELSA to keep an up to date register please email the new Board/Committee and contact persons to elsa.europe@totalise.co.uk

For more information on ELSA

For more information about ELSA, its activities and the European Year of People with Disabilities (EYPD) visit the ELSA web-site www.elsa.info

Has somebody given you a copy of this newsletter?

If you have received this newsletter from a friend or colleague and are interested in receiving future copies yourself then send an email to elsa.europe@telia.com with the text "*subscribe EYPD*".

Previous Editions

Did you know that there have been three previous editions of this newsletter? To view the previous ones go the ELSA web-site www.elsa.info

Newsletter Links

Have you had problems with any of the internet links in this or previous newsletters? If so please email elsa.europe@totalise.co.uk explaining any problems you have had. We will look at them and make corrections.

The EYPD Competition – Question Number 3

In November 2000 an EU Framework Directive was adopted which will hopefully contribute to equal treatment of disabled people within the European Union.

What specific fields does the Framework Directive cover?

Greetings

We wish all subscribers an enjoyable summer

Anita Blom (S) Edwin J. Farr MBE (GB) Gina Waggott (GB) Konrad Schaefers (D) Benedikt Benediktsson (IS)