

EWING FOUNDATION
for deaf children

News

Celebrating
70
1952-2022

Autumn/ Winter 2022

Celebrating 70!

We are celebrating 70 amazing years of supporting deaf children and young people and their teachers.

Malcolm and Sheila McAlpine set up the Ewing Foundation in 1952, naming it in honour of the audiologists Sir Alexander and Lady Irene Ewing.

The Ewings had been of enormous help to the McAlpines when their son was born deaf in 1944, and Malcolm and Sheila wanted other deaf children and their families to benefit from the Ewings' expertise. The McAlpines' youngest son Hamish has been our Chair since 2011, although he has been attending Trustee meetings for 45 years!

We have come a long way since our early days, when our first Technology Consultant, George Dalziel, travelled the country by van, visiting schools with a Warren group hearing aid donated by the partially deaf singer Johnny Ray.

Since then, our fantastic team of specialists has checked and repaired thousands of hearing



Chief Executive Sarah (far left) pictured with some of the Ewing Foundation team in 2022, (from left to right) James, Helen, Jeremy, Clare, Mark, Katy, Paul and Carole.

aids and radio aids, and supported thousands of deaf children and young people and their teachers in the classroom. What makes our work special is its hands-on delivery, providing immediate, practical benefits for deaf children and young people and their teachers.

We have always had an eye to the future and, during the past two years, our service delivery team has grown. Mark has joined our Technology Consultants, supporting schools and services in the north of England. Meanwhile, Carole, Clare and Katy, all experienced deaf education professionals, have joined Helen in our Education Advisors' team. Please contact us if you would like to find out more about how we can support your work with deaf children and young people.

'Thank you to all of the dedicated Ewing staff and Trustees, past and present, and all of our fabulous sector partners, for helping us to achieve this incredible seventy year milestone,' said Chief Executive Sarah Armstrong. 'We look forward to continuing our vital work, and over the course of the next year, we shall let you know more about our growing team and new training opportunities.'

Thank you to Joyce

In July, our wonderful Education Advisor Joyce Sewell-Rutter retired after twenty years with the Ewing Foundation and an incredible fifty years in deaf education.

Over the years, Joyce has supported countless education professionals in their work with deaf children and young people. She has also mentored our Con Powell Memorial Scholars, helping teachers to train to become Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (QToDs).

Joyce was one of the founders of our Greater London Affiliation for Deaf Education (GLADE), a group that seeks to inform and connect deaf education professionals. As facilitator of The Burwood Park Foundation, she has supported deaf children with additional needs, working with the British Association of Teachers of the Deaf (BATOD) to deliver special interest events on deafness and autism.

'Individual children and teachers in schools, services and colleges who have had the good fortune to have worked with Joyce will miss her,' said Trustee Lindsey Rousseau, *'Thank you Joyce. You have deserved your retirement!'*



'It has been a joy and a privilege to work for such a lovely organisation,' said Joyce.

Celebrating Scholars



The Con Powell Memorial Scholarships event

GLADE reunited

In her final event for Ewing, Joyce brought together members of GLADE, our networking group for staff in resource provisions across Greater London, for a special day of updates about the sector. This was the first in-person GLADE event since the start of the pandemic.

Jess Haslam, a Qualified Teacher of the Deaf (QToD) and Special Educational Needs and Disability Advisor at the Department for Education, delivered the keynote speech on the Green Paper (March 2022)

and its implications for deaf practice. Another highlight was a workshop delivered by our Education Advisers Helen and Carole on using Bloom's taxonomy and Blank's questioning to encourage conversation. Thank you to Joyce, and all of our speakers and exhibitors.

Please visit www.ewing-foundation.org.uk/deaf-education-professionals-gather-for-glade/ to find out more about this full and varied day, or contact us for details of future GLADE events.



Calling new deaf education professionals

We have recently launched regional groups for trainee Teachers of the Deaf, and also recently qualified Teachers of the Deaf who are working in resource provisions in isolation. Please contact Helen at helenm@ewing-foundation.org.uk to find out more.

Our Con Powell Memorial Scholars, past and present, have reunited for a special afternoon tea to celebrate ten years of the Scholarships programme for trainee Teachers of the Deaf.

During the event in York, Scholars developed a giant timeline marking their progress over the last decade, noting the defining moments in their personal journeys and their careers. Four former Scholars shared their tips for getting the most out of the training and for moving into employment.

'The event provided a lovely opportunity to review the last ten years, better understand what the Scholarships meant to people and encourage them to continue to share progress and support one another going forward,' said Ewing Foundation Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Armstrong.

We hope that this gathering will be the first of many, and will encourage our alumni to 'give back' by sharing their learning with new Scholars and within the deaf education sector.

The Scholarships are named in honour of Con Powell, the first President of BATOD and the first Chief Executive of Ewing Foundation. Each year, our grantmaking partner Ovingdean Hall Foundation (OHF) offers up to five Scholarships for teachers to train to become Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (QToDs). The Scholarships are managed by BATOD, with Scholars receiving support from Ewing Foundation staff. Over the past decade, 45 people have completed the programme.

Con Powell's son Kevin sent a message on behalf of his family: *'We're delighted to know that so many people have benefited from the training bursaries over the years and that this helps in continuing the brilliant*

work you collectively do. Teacher training was always something close to our father's heart, and it means a lot to us to know his contribution to deaf education is still being recognised. He would have been very proud, as we (and families) are, of this being enacted in his name.'

Thank you to all who attended – our Scholars, BATOD and Ewing colleagues, and to our Education Adviser Helen who organised this special day marking ten years of supporting the next generation of deaf education professionals.

The Scholarships re-open in January 2023. Visit www.batod.org.uk/about-us/con-powell-scholarship/ to find out more.



Jonathan and Clare at
BATOD Cymru

Ewing in Wales

Thank you to BATOD Cymru for inviting us to their study day this summer.

It was wonderful to meet delegates and share news of our services for deaf education professionals. Our Education Advisor Clare delivered a presentation about Ewing's work, while Jonathan and Claire from our partner charity Ovingdean Hall Foundation highlighted its grantmaking opportunities for charities supporting deaf children and young people in Wales. We look forward to returning to Wales in 2023!

Test rod development

Our Technology Consultant Paul Harris has been involved in developing an innovative new test rod to allow users to monitor their bone anchored hearing aids (BAHAs).

Over the past year, Paul has collaborated with audiology supplier Graham Bath to create the rod for use with a single test rod adaptation. It is compatible with both the Oticon Medical Ponto and Cochlear BAHAs.

Known colloquially as 'the glowstick', orders for the first batch of the Bath and Harris Test Rod (BHTR) can be placed with Rubi Audiology (www.rubiaudiology.com). Many sensory teams can also buy a BHTR directly from us by adding it to their Ewing Foundation account.



'There are many advantages to using our BHTR,' says Paul. 'It is affordable, easy to hold, easy to clean, and, because of its additional length, can be positioned close to the ear canal for better clarity and reduced acoustic feedback.' He also notes that the BHTR's bright colour makes it difficult to lose!

The first batch of BHTR retail at £38.90 each. We are delighted that £1 from the sale of every BHTR will be donated to the Ewing Foundation.

Thank you Paul and Graham for all your hard work in developing this innovation for the benefit of people who wear BAHAs. Please contact us if you have any questions.

EWING FOUNDATION
for deaf children

Support us at
70
1952-2022

Thanks to charitable support, we are able to offer our vital services at heavily subsidised rates. Please can you support us at 70? If you can help our much-needed work, please donate online at www.ewing-foundation.org.uk/support-us or please send your cheque or CAF voucher (payable to Ewing Foundation) to the address below. Thank you for helping us to continue our work into the future!

Ewing Foundation
15 Great College Street
London
SW1P 3RX

Tel: 01273 301929
Text: 07778 599939
Email: info@ewing-foundation.org.uk
Registered charity number: 226746

Thank you very much!

www.ewing-foundation.org.uk