

# EWING FOUNDATION

for deaf children

# News

Spring 2015

## Magic at *Matilda*

**Ewing Foundation staff have been able to support two special theatre days organised by education charity Mousetrap.**



The days were funded by our partner organisation Ovingdean Hall Foundation (OHF), and each included a

drama workshop, sign singing and a backstage tour, followed by a captioned performance of the musical *Matilda*.

Back at school, the children wrote their own plays with the support of professional playwrights. Their work was showcased at Leicester Square Theatre, with parts being played by professional actors.

To ensure that events are accessible and audible for all, Ewing Foundation Specialist Audiology Technician Paul Harris has given Mousetrap advice and training on how to use a portable wireless microphone system in workshops.

This microphone system has also been funded by OHF, using donations left in memory of their late supporter Roy Vass.

Ewing Foundation Education Consultant Joyce Sewell-Rutter gave the playwrights preparatory training in deaf awareness, providing insight into the impact of deafness on language and literacy development.



**theatreprojects**  
inspiring young people

Please contact us to find out more about our deaf awareness and technical support training.



Students on the *Matilda* drama workshops

## Linking Listening to Language

**This new Ewing Foundation training event was held at the Seashell Trust last summer.**

The day covered a range of topics:

- Audiological foundations for listening
- Using speech discrimination tests effectively
- Understanding and assessing children's listening development
- Planning for progress in listening and language.

The day was a great success. *'The course met and exceeded expectations,'* said one delegate, while another added: *'Thoroughly enjoyed the day, presentations and delivery excellent.'*

The next training day is being planned for Spring 2015. If you are interested in attending a day, or in having the event delivered to your team, please contact Trish Cope on: [trishac@ewing-foundation.org.uk](mailto:trishac@ewing-foundation.org.uk)

# London Calling

**Greater London Affiliation for Deaf Education (GLADE) is a new focus group for professionals working in resource provisions across Greater London.**

Organised by Ewing Education Consultants Joyce Sewell-Rutter and Stevie Mayhook, the aims of the group are to share good practice through discussion and training opportunities, and to alleviate isolation of specialist staff by encouraging networking and peer support.

Please email Joyce on [joycesr@ewing-foundation.org.uk](mailto:joycesr@ewing-foundation.org.uk) to find out more.



# 10 years of UK Children's FM Working Group

**A group supported by the Ewing Foundation team is marking its tenth anniversary. Ken Higgins, Joyce Sewell-Rutter and Jeremy Hine are members of the UK Children's FM Working Group, which advises on the effective use of deaf children's radio aid systems.**



The group, which brings together manufacturers of hearing instruments, leading professionals and the voluntary sector, is responsible for the Quality Standards on the use of personal FM systems (radio aids). They also act as a 'watch dog' on issues relating to equipment for deaf children. They met with Ofcom to discuss concerns about the proposed changes to digital channels which could affect users of hearing instruments. Their arguments were accepted by Ofcom, resulting in a change of direction.

*'Radio aids have enabled greater inclusion for deaf pupils,' says Joyce. 'As technology progresses it is vital to ensure compatibility between devices and improved outcomes for users. The Ewing Foundation is delighted to contribute to these priorities.'*

**Ewing Foundation provides training, education consultancy and technical support for people, schools, units and organisations working with deaf children.**

**If you would like to find out more, please contact:**

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Registered charity number: 226746

If you would like to make a donation towards our work with deaf children, please visit:

**[www.ewing-foundation.org.uk/support-us](http://www.ewing-foundation.org.uk/support-us)**

Thank you.

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