

Press release

Dyslexia Awareness Week, 5 - 10 November 2018

My Wider World

Dyslexia can have surprising effects, beyond difficulties with reading, writing or spelling. The theme of Dyslexia Awareness Week in Scotland is 'My Wider World', reflecting the many different ways that dyslexia impacts on the everyday lives of children and adults with dyslexia.

In order to highlight the positives as well as the barriers that dyslexia can bring, a range of people of different ages and backgrounds joined our 'My Wider World' poster campaign about what dyslexia means to them on a day to day basis. They include an author, graphic designer, footballer and sound engineer.

This thought-provoking campaign shows what life is like for the 1 in 10 children and adults in Scotland who have dyslexia.

The week will raise awareness and understanding of dyslexia through an exciting range of events taking place across Scotland. The programme, put together by Dyslexia Scotland and partners, will signpost people to sources of information, support and advice.

A key attraction during the week will be a screening of Scottish documentary 'Dyslexia: Educate Me' by filmmaker Trevor Thomson who is himself dyslexic. The film will be shown in Stirling on 9 November, followed by a panel discussion with dyslexia experts and individuals with dyslexia. Free places are available to the public via the Macrobert Arts Centre website.

Other special events include a workshop for parents and children in Edinburgh led by founder of Dekko Comics, Rossie Stone. The workshop will introduce superheroes who can help children to overcome their dyslexia difficulties and unleash their strengths.

Dyslexia Scotland and Edinburgh City Libraries will be hosting a joint event on Thursday 8 November featuring a Dyslexia Scotland Young Ambassador and other supporters who will talk about dyslexia's impact on their wider world.

Dyslexia Scotland's network of 18 volunteer-led branches and 3 Adult Networks will also be active in their local communities across Scotland with a range of meetings open to the public.

People can also show their support during Dyslexia Awareness Week by wearing one of 'Ellie's Blue Dyslexia Ribbons', 50,000 of which will be distributed across Scotland. Ellie,

Dyslexia Scotland's first Young Person's Ambassador, launched this campaign in 2013 to help other young people feel comfortable and confident with dyslexia.

For all the latest information and resources about Dyslexia Awareness Week in Scotland, including posters and free downloadable presentations for schools, workplaces and the community, go to: www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk/dyslexia-awareness-week.

Notes to the Editor

1. Dyslexia is a combination of abilities and difficulties that affect the learning processes in reading, spelling, writing, mathematics, memory or organisation. One in ten people in Scotland are thought to be dyslexic, with up to one in four of these thought to be severely dyslexic.
2. Dyslexia Scotland is the national voluntary organisation representing the needs and interests of people with dyslexia in Scotland. It provides advice and support for dyslexic children, parents and adults with dyslexia. Dyslexia Scotland is based in Stirling, with a network of 19 volunteer-led branches across Scotland.
3. Dyslexia Scotland's Helpline: 0344 800 8484

Dyslexia Scotland's website: www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Dyslexia Unwrapped, for 8 – 18 year olds:
www.unwrapped.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

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