



ODCS NEWSLETTER

February 2019

Happy New Year everyone! It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas party and attending the pantomime in Oxford – we hope you had a lovely time for the rest of the festive season. In this issue:

- Committee news - new members needed
- New: Facebook page
- Upcoming events (Crocodiles of the World trip, 3rd March; Horrible Histories – special performance, 18th June; ODCS pairing with local toddler group)
- Website – photographs wanted!

Dear all,

Since the last edition we've had a couple of resignations from the committee as Emma Berlusconi and Jane Jones have both stepped down after many years' service. Emma is no longer able to attend meetings due to her fostering commitments, but is to continue to help at events where needed (thank you Emma!). Jane has also decided to step down as minutes secretary and we thank her for her assistance over the years. Jane has been on the committee for over 20 years and has helped out in many ways including staying overnight on Youdale trips, doing the crafts at the Christmas party and even on occasion taking ear-mould impressions at ODCS events! I know you will all join me in thanking both ladies for all their hard work for the Society.

This means **we need a couple of new committee members**, to ensure we have enough members present at each meeting to be able to vote on decisions. *If we don't have enough committee members it will be increasingly difficult to organize events and keep the Charity going.* Recently we've been unable to organize anything for the Friends of the Young Deaf group, so if there is anyone out there with teenage children (or even older teenagers themselves with good ideas for events they'd enjoy?) who would like to join the committee then it would be great to have you, but all volunteers are welcome! We meet on the **second Monday of the month** (no meeting in August or December) at the **Deaf Centre in Oxford from 7.15-9pm** (although I always try to finish early if possible!). Do come along if you'd like to be involved – you don't have to come every month and we can help with transport or babysitting costs where necessary. If you plan to come please do let someone know in

advance, as sometimes we cancel the meeting if there is nothing pressing to discuss or a shortage of people able to attend; my contact details are at the bottom of this letter, or you can email via Carol at oxfordshiredcs@gmail.com

The **website** is very nearly ready, but we could do with some photographs of ODCS members at any recent events to include on the website. These are just for use as background photos and none of the children's names would be included. If you are happy for us to use any of your photos could you please send a copy to Carol on the above email address?

Some of you may have noticed that we now have a **Facebook** group – just search for 'ODCS'. It's a closed group so you will need to click 'join' and then one of the admins will approve anyone on our membership list. (Drop us a message if you think we might struggle to match up your Facebook profile with your details on the membership list).

Upcoming events include a trip to **Crocodiles of the World** at Brize Norton in Oxfordshire on **3rd March** (sorry for short-notice!) and we also spotted that **Horrible Histories** are bringing a special performance called '**Dreadful Deaf – Deafinitely not for the faint-hearted**' all about deaf history to the North Wall Arts Centre in Oxford on **Tuesday 18th June**. A flyer for this is enclosed – it would be great if lots of you are able to enjoy this performance. If there is anything else you can think of that would make a good social event do let us know!

We also have a **new initiative** to try out – one of the aims of ODCS is to enable hearing impaired children and their families to meet up and have fun. This can be tricky to achieve on a regular basis when we're all

spread out across the county so we've decided to try pairing up with a local toddler group to provide a 'hub' organization for ODCS members to join. We will trial this with the **Adderbury Baby & Toddler Group**, which takes place throughout the year (except on Bank Holidays) on **Mondays from 10am-12 noon** at the Lucy Plackett Activity Centre in Adderbury (just off Round Close Rd, OX17 3EE). ODCS will pay your entry to each session and where two or more members are in attendance will make a small contribution to the group to aid with running costs. Obviously this will probably only interest those in the north of the county with pre-school children, but if there are any other groups

elsewhere in the county that you think would be open to a similar arrangement then please do get in touch - it doesn't have to be toddler groups!

Best wishes and hope to see you soon,

Zoë Lee

Vice-Chair ODCS

Tel: 01295 812382 or 07743775150

Enclosed with this Newsletter:

- Flyer for Horrible Histories performance
- Flyer for Crocodiles of the World (below)



Please join us on Sunday 3rd March for a trip to Crocodiles of the world - Burford Road, Brize Norton, Oxon, OX18 3NX.

ODCS will pay entry for every family (and 1 friend if no siblings are attending) and will also provide children's snack boxes for lunch (there will be gluten and dairy free options)

Schedule for the day (optional):

Arrival (they open from 10am)

10:30am Meerkat feed and talk

11:00am Nile crocodile feeding demo

11:30am Otter feed and talk

12:00pm Crocodile talk in Education Room

12:30pm Meet a snake in the Education Room

Please let Carol (oxforddcs@gmail.com) know if you would like to attend by Sunday 24th February (don't forget to say if you need kids' lunch).