



## **Deaf Studies Trust** **what we have done ..1984 - 2014**

The Deaf Studies Trust (DST) established 30 years ago (1984) is a research-based charity with a national aim to enhance and improve the quality of deaf people's lives and their communication with society.

### **Projects and Activities in the Deaf Studies Trust since its inception**

The Trust has been active since 1984 in setting up projects which improve the situation of deaf people in the UK. Projects are either small projects to initiate new areas of work or large scale research contracts to deliver results to a specific brief and deadline. Almost all projects are as a result of commissions or competitive tenders. The Trust also applies its findings through courses and workshops. Some of the research is open and available - other studies are commissions which are closed and only available to the funders. Where we can we release the reports.

#### **1984 onwards**

Language development of deaf babies at home from the age of three months - recordings of mothers and babies

Comparisons of deaf and hearing mothers in access to information - interviews with mothers about their use of information sources

Development of new resource material, for the training of workers with deaf people, in the form of sign language teaching videotapes

A new computer system (HI-LINC) which provides a live transcription and note-taking system to allow deaf people to participate in meetings and lectures by displaying the text onscreen.

Courses for parents of deaf children

#### **1990 onwards**

"Switched on - Deaf people's views on television subtitling" - a national study of over 2,500 deaf and hard-of-hearing people

Deaf Children At Home - sign language intervention in the families of deaf children

Training of deaf and hearing teachers to develop a multilingual deaf school in Moscow

Family workshops in Bristol - for parents with Deaf children

The History of Deaf Education in Bristol project - collection of the archives and history of Deaf education - report published.

Deaf Leadership/Management Training - video materials and text

Saturday Schools for deaf and hearing children - an experimental project to establish a Saturday language and culture schools for the children of Deaf families and the Deaf children of hearing families

The creation of the Family Centre (Deaf Children) - a centre where parents and families of deaf children can play a significant role in the services and provision for their child.

### **1995 onwards**

Hearing Parents with Deaf Children - an investigation and then series of workshops for the deaf parents of hearing children

Elderly Deaf - an interview study of deaf people in the community and the problems of ageing

Changing the Community - an investigation of the impact of the training of sign language interpreters

Mental Health and Deafness - a national interview study of deaf people in residential homes for reasons of mental health

Signworks: Developing Deaf Business - a collaborative project which brought together commercial organisations and researchers to develop a unique business information server which is accessible through videophones.

Deaf People, Information and the Community (DPIC) - a national lifestyle survey of deaf people in the UK, following a representative sample of deaf people aged between 18 and 65 years for three years.

### **2000 Onwards**

DPIC II - an extension to the DPIC project which will provide a series of regional workshops and collect further data on deaf health, language and culture

WISDOM - an international collaboration which will develop 3rd generation mobile video services for deaf people throughout Europe

Video Talks - a project to promote the use of video phones in the deaf community in the UK

Signed Advice - pilot work to create a Citizens' Advice service to deaf people in sign language

Sign 50+ - the provision of videophones to Deaf people at home - those older than 50 years; this project has run until the present time with gradual change in the technology. Services and equipment have been provided free to the Deaf community.

Sign Renew - workshops for older people and those with special needs to support them with technology and especially videophones.

BSL Access in Scotland - interview study of Deaf people all over Scotland including Shetland Isles and Western Isles about their access to services - like police, health

See Hear Now - analysis of viewer's reactions to the See Hear Programme and recommendations

Sports for Young Deaf people (BBC Children in Need) - a programme to encourage young Deaf people to engage with less common sports and to develop leadership and management skills

### **2005 onwards**

Employment issues for Deaf people - interviews with Deaf people and their employers about satisfaction in the workplace

Electoral Process for Deaf people with BDA Wales - an evaluation of the project to improve Deaf people's awareness of the political processes leading to an election.

Sign Language CODEC with DTI (on work on eye gaze and sign language) - technical study of where Deaf people look when they watch sign language

SignAware funded by DWP a partnership project which led to the setting up of [www.signstation.org](http://www.signstation.org) - a resource for all those who need to work with Deaf people.

DeafBlind Worlds - national study comparing Deaf and Deafblind people's attitudes to life and to each other.

### **2010 onwards**

Legal Choices – Silent Process - Engaging legal services when you do not hear - interviews with Deaf and hard of hearing people about their experiences of meeting with solicitors and in court.

Healthy Deaf Minds - a workshop series to promote well being in the Deaf community in Bristol

Stepping Stones - Interview and analysis to support the creation of a new approach to family services for Deaf children in the South West of England

Sign on TV a report for the BSL Broadcasting Trust to advise on the views of Deaf people about the programmes to be commissioned and shown

Deaf Experiences of Council Services - with changes to Local Authorities we interviewed Deaf people about their involvement in community activities.

Digital Switchover - information supplied in BSL and work in the homes to help Deaf people with the TV switchover to digital.

SETIT - providing training for Deaf people in IT skills

REACH112 - REsponding to All Citizens Needing Help - UK Project Evaluation of a project part funded by the European Commission in the ICT Pilot Programme - a large scale pilot project to provide video telephony to Deaf and hard of hearing people and to open up access to emergency services.

Total Conversation Cymru - Supported by Welsh Government Advancing Equality Fund - a service in Wales to allow Deaf and hard of hearing people to communicate with public services either remotely (eg from home or work) or in person (at a walk-in centre) in video, voice and text (or any combination), either directly face to face or through an on-demand online relay agent.

Deaf Health - National study of health outcomes for Deaf people in the light of the problems of access which they face.

Perceptions of the BDA - A commissioned study of Deaf people's views on the working of the British Deaf Association