



## LDSSG Newsletter July 2014

### Thank You!

As some of you may be aware Nigel and Caroline Stanley stepped down from their roles of Chairman and Secretary of the group and we all want to thank them for the hard work they have done over the past years. We are pleased that Nigel and Caroline will both remain on the committee and continue to support the group.

### So perhaps it is time for some Introductions...

#### Chair:

Hi, I'm Eileen and I am very honoured to have been granted the opportunity to serve as Chair for this fantastic group. I only hope I can do as good a job as my predecessor Nigel Stanley....big shoes to fill! So you'll need to know a little about me.

I'm married to Pete and mum to 2 lively little boys. Niall is almost 4 and you may have noticed him as Mr December on the last 2 calendars. Fintan is our new addition, he's 5 months and Niall is proving himself to be a great big brother. I've been part of the LDSSG Committee since late 2011, having joined in the hope of meeting other parents of children with Down's Syndrome to befriend & share experiences with. This has certainly happened through our regular committee meetings and the fantastic events organised by the group.

In my former life (before I made the decision to be a full-time mum), I was the Manager of a local drug & alcohol treatment charity. I have 16 years experience of working within the public and voluntary sector and 8 years as a manager in a charitable organisation so I feel I have the right skills and knowledge to bring to the group.

So, what do I aim to achieve as Chair? It's simple really, I want to know what else the LDSSG can offer its members. So please feel free to contact me, Keeley or Si with ideas, wish list or brainwaves about how we can

provide greater support for you and your families and we'll do our best.

#### Treasurer:

Hi, I'm Simon and I joined the committee in March 2012. I have worked as a Senior Manager for a large local employer for the past nine years. We deal with customers who are seeking financial advice, primarily those who are experiencing financial difficulties. My current role incorporates the global communications for the business from both new and existing customers, as well as banking corporations and other business partners. Previously I have negotiated with the banks and building societies to ensure customer well-being remains the primary focus of all parties. I play football for Caythorpe FC on a Saturday. I also enjoy running, although with 3 young children (Edie, Elsie & Albert) my half marathon days are a distant memory! I have recently joined the Caythorpe Primary School board of Governors. I have been the Treasurer and part of the Funding Sub Committee for the Lincolnshire Down's Syndrome Support Group for the past 2 years. LDSSG is a charity close to my heart after the birth of my daughter Elsie in 2011.

If the varied experiences I have had so far in my life and career can help shape the lives of both the current and future members of our group then I owe it to myself, friends & family, not to mention the local community to do whatever I can to ensure others are as fortunate as I have been in life.

#### Secretary:

Hi I'm Keeley and I will be following in Caroline's footsteps as Secretary for the LDSSG for 2014/15.

I work full time in Human Resources for a global manufacturing company. I live in a small village outside Grantham with my husband, our 2 year old son Kayden (who joined Niall as Mr December 2014!) and our crazy cocker spaniel Henry! Having grown up near Spalding I left the county for a number of years but we moved back to Lincolnshire almost 2 years ago and shortly after that I was introduced to LDSSG.

After attending the new years parties and summer BBQ, and being provided with various other support I wanted to give something back to the group and joined the committee in 2013. I'm excited to have been asked to be Secretary this year and hope that with everyone's support we can continue to build a successful future for the group.

### **Successful fundraisers...**

We have had a fantastic year of fundraising so far and it is only through these events that we are able to continue to run the group

### **Benidorm or Bust**



At the end of April 2014, Friends of LDSSG took part in the charity drive 'Benidorm or Bust'. The team successfully drove their 'old banger' from Caythorpe to Benidorm and back raising over £2000 for LDSSG.

A massive thank you to the team for their hard efforts!

### **Upcoming fundraising events**

### **Buckminster Horse Show – Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>**

[www.buckminstershow.com](http://www.buckminstershow.com)

This event is being held in aid of LDSSG and looks like it will be a fantastic family day out. We would love to see you there. If you are able to help on

the tombola or on the gates taking donations then please let us know!

### **Other events**

Concert at Sturton by Stow village hall on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Coffee Morning at St Peter and Pauls Church Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014

If you want any further information on these then please contact one of the committee.

### **Family Day Out!!**

This year's summer outing will be to Rand Farm Park on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014. This will be a fantastic day out for the family and chance to catch up with your friends from the LDSSG! More details to follow soon...

### **Celebrations!**

We want to celebrate the successes of all of our members so please send us any stories that you want to be included in future newsletters. This could be an achievement at school or college, first day in a job, a sporting achievement or absolutely anything else that you are proud of! Please send your stories to Keeley at the email address below.

### **Feedback & Suggestions**

We want the LDSSG to work for you and so if you have any suggestions of how we can provide support to your family then please contact one of the committee members:

Eileen McMorrow, Chair  
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