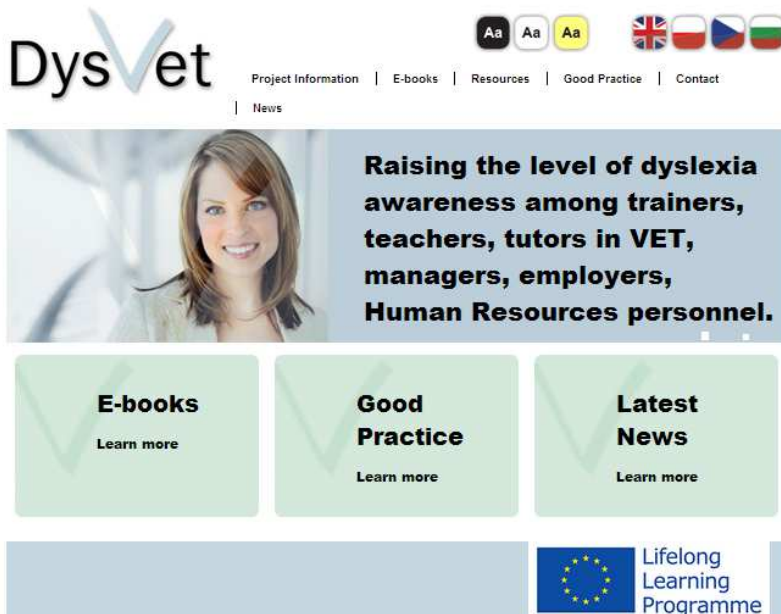


**Raising the level of dyslexia awareness among trainers,
teachers, tutors in VET, managers, employers,
Human Resources personnel.**

The project outcome – Dysvet website



Dysvet website is designed to be dyslexia friendly. We consider all necessary factors that are important for people with dyslexia. The navigation of the website is easy and the website also offers a choice of background colours. These are just a few of the many examples of making dyslexia friendly material. More information will be provided in Module 6 - Preparing materials for the dyslexic learner.

The project website provides you with general information on the project. It is a great European website for building a bridge between dyslexic trainees/workers and trainers, managers and employers.

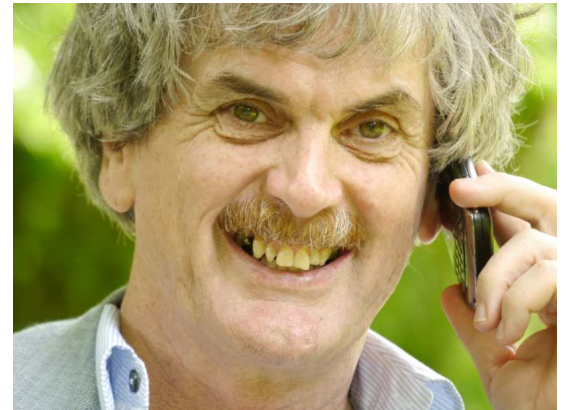


www.dyslang.eu is available in all partners' languages.

Partner Focus – Ibis Creative Consultants Ltd

Ibis has an international reputation for the development of dyslexia identification, teaching and supporting material, with projects funded by EC, governments and institutions from US, Canada, Brazil, China and Hong Kong both in print and electronic format. Ibis has been the project partner for several dyslexia related EU projects, working with partners across the EU as well as accession and other countries.

The company also widely consults on the use of ICT in education, and has developed learning games with respect to helping individuals with learning disabilities and those that work with them.

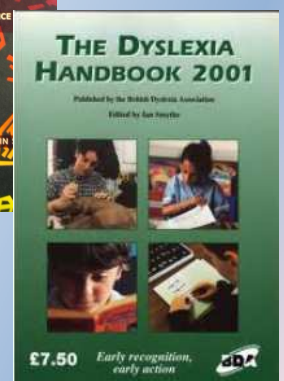
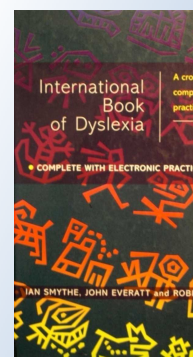
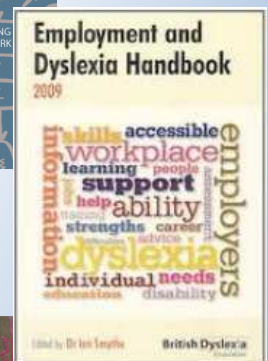


Dr Ian Smythe, Chief Executive of Ibis, is an education consultant bringing together expertise in the fields of literacy, assessment and technology with specific reference to those disenfranchised in an increasingly literate environment. He combines his research and engineering background with his extensive literacy expertise to produce effective solutions for wide implementation in the classroom and beyond. His international work developed out of his PhD research into cognitive diversity and reading difficulties in different languages including Brazilian Portuguese, Hungarian and Chinese. He has worked with foreign governments and non-governmental organisations - conducting workshops, lectures and seminars around the world.

As well as publishing many research papers, Ian has written or been the editor of a number of books. He is author of "Dyslexia in the Digital Age" (A guide to new technology for children, students and those in employment with literacy difficulties, published by Continuum Books) and editor of "BDA Employment and Dyslexia Handbook" (A compendium of advice and information for managers and HR personnel published by the British Dyslexia Association). He has written for organisations worldwide on such diverse subjects as reading difficulties, multilingualism, technology and adults with reading difficulties, as well as written teaching modules for the e-learning course. His books have been published in Bulgarian, Czech and Polish, as well as English.

Ian has visited the Czech Republic many times, for projects, lectures, workshops, conferences and teacher training. He is currently editing a book for parents in Czech, with additional contributions from Prof Olga Zelinkova, Magda Ziemnicka and Prof Amanda Kirby.

Books from Ian Smythe



Modules – a quick look

The first draft of the project modules are now out for review, in Czech, Bulgarian, Polish and English. All partners will produce 9 modules. The contents of the modules will be transferred into the e-books

DysVet

Hardware

Choosing the right hardware for the task is important. But before you buy, you need to ask yourself the key questions:

- Who will use it?
- What functions should it have?
- Where will you use it?
- Why do you need it?
- How will it be used?
- When (is it going to be used)

There is no room here to discuss all of the possible variations. But here is one "Case Study" that was an effective solution for that individual.

Assistive technology

Tablets

It is interesting that there is a huge market for physical keyboards to work with tablet machines. What does that tell us about our decision making process when choosing between laptops and tablets?

Trendy Tablets

Curiously, a number of colleagues where were early adopters of the tablet technology are now using paper-based notepads and old fashioned pens.

Does the preference of being able to flick through post notes on paper have a cognitive basis, or is it just a matter of what you were brought up on?

Case study

Michael decided to use a desktop computer, using a combination of commercial, free and online software. For "on the move" and "away from the desk" work, low cost apps for the Samsung Galaxy Tab 7 were purchased, using Dropbox to ensure the latest documents were available at all times.

This shared (Dropbox) approach allows for changing technology and decreased the worry of transferring all the right files!

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From Module 4 – Assistive technology

The purpose of this module is to provide a basic understanding of using ICT in teaching and supporting the dyslexic individual. This module will offer advice to dyslexic individuals on the practical uses of technology and also will include the suggestions of employer responsibilities and how productivity can improve using technology.

DysVet

Supporting dyslexic learner and employee

Emotional support

There is a lot of examples when dyslexic adults say that the worse part of their life was school when they were not supported and nobody understood their difficulties.

These examples are from famous dyslexics:

S. Spielberg struggled with math and eventually dropped out of college.

A teacher sent the following not home with a six year-old Thomas Edison: "He is too stupid to learn."

W. Churchill was punished at school for lack of efforts.

Lack of support, school failures, low self-esteem can be the reasons of behavioural disorders and problems at school. These may lead to the incompleted education and then poor quality of the life.

Emotional support could be expressed in the following ways:

- Understanding** the reasons of mistakes and failures. Create an environment where making mistakes is seen as part of the learning process
- Being discreet.** Point out mistakes personally, never in front of the class, not to push to read out loud.
- Being demanding.** After appropriate support it is important to expect certain work. It is a good feeling to know that it was worthy to work hard.
- To help** and to direct where to find help. It means readiness to support. It is a result of understanding of the difficulties and knowledge how to help.
- Promotion of self-confidence** by giving learners the experience of success and positive feedback.

Links <http://dyslexiahelp.umich.edu/success-stories/steven-spielberg>
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_oG8svUjBw

From Module 7 – Supporting dyslexic learner and employee

The purpose of the module is to help to understand the different types of support for dyslexic individuals. This module will guide you through the two important supports: support in learning and emotional support. Both are equally important.

Conference in Kromeriz, Jun 2013

Presentations about supporting the dyslexic individuals from Kromeriz Library, 10th of June 2013. 23 people participated in the conference DysVet – Dyslexia Knowledge Transfer in VET system. We had the opportunity to listen the unique presentations of European experts on dyslexia: Dr. Ian Smythe (UK), Magdalena Ziemnicka (Poland), Daniela Boneva (Bulgaria).



2nd Partner meeting – Kromeriz, Czech Rep.

Kromeriz, Czech Republic 10th – 11th June 2013

The second partner meeting was held in Kromeriz, a Moravian town in the Zlin Region of the Czech Republic. The Archbishop's Château with two surrounding gardens is located in Kromeriz, one of the most attractive towns in Moravia where some scenes from Amadeus and Immortal Beloved were filmed. The historic complex as a whole was added to the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List in 1998.



Kromeriz Chateau

NOTICE

The British Dyslexia Association International Conference

27th to 29th March 2014

G-live conference centre, Guildford

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Please visit www.dysvet.eu to keep up to date with our project activities!