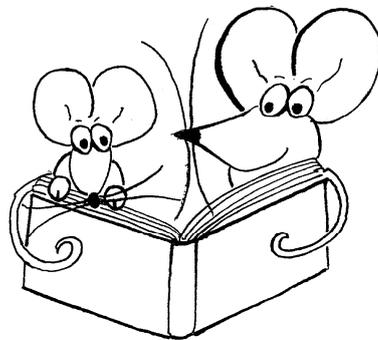


# LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

## Souvenir Supplement

Civic Reception  
16th February 2006



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LITERACY VOLUNTEERS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SCHOOLS  
Registered Charity No. 1055942

## **Literacy Volunteers Civic Reception**

Following the awarding of a Civic Reception by Nottinghamshire County Council, to celebrate the achievements of Literacy Volunteers in City and County Schools over the last decade, over 150 Literacy Volunteers and Guests joined together in the Assembly Hall of County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham on 16th February 2006.

The Reception was graciously hosted by the Chairman of the County Council, Councillor Alan Davison and Mrs Jean Davison, who were accompanied by the Deputy Chairman of the County Council, Councillor Peter Barnes and Councillor Mrs Sandra Barnes. Special Guests included Judith Swann, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, representing Sir Andrew Buchanan, Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, (Judith, was of course, a previous Manager of ours) Councillor Chris Baron, Cabinet Member for Culture, Dr Julie O'Neill, co-founder of Literacy Volunteers, and Kaye Brooks, Development Manager, Change Team, NCVS. As Parliament was sitting apologies for non-attendance were received from our "Champion" MPs.

It was the first time in our history that so many Literacy Volunteers had gathered together under one roof, and what a roof to gather under! The atmosphere, which was commented on by many, was unique with so many smiling faces prevailing and a warm feeling of fellowship and pride in being a member of such a worthwhile organisation.

Councillor Davison formally started the proceedings by his welcome speech and Mrs Ann Sanderson, Chairman of Literacy Volunteers responded (both speeches are reproduced later on in this supplement).

There then followed a period of "networking" and socialising accompanied by a delicious buffet and welcome drinks which eased many parched throats.

Our Hosts and Guests circulated and I think left no one in doubt of their and Nottinghamshire County Council's feeling regarding the highly valued help given by our Volunteers to children in Primary Schools.

It was also a time for your Staff Team to come and meet you, you should now be able to put a face to the voice you hear on the telephone, the signature on letters or the author of an article in the Newsletter. Helping in ones, twos or threes does not make it easy for us all to get together as much as we would like, it has taken us 10 years to achieve what we did in February! It was good for the Team to be able to talk and meet so many Volunteers and I hope that you have gained a feel for the organisation that supports your efforts at the "sharp end"; please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we can provide you, "your" children or School with further help and support at any time.

Certain photographs are reproduced in this special "Souvenir" supplement and details where they may be purchase from are also given. A two page spread also appeared in "Nottinghamshire Today", April 06 and Area Workers should have advised you if you appear in that article so that, if you wish, you can purchase photographs direct.

The Civic Reception left many of us on a "high" and in my letter of thanks on behalf of Literacy Volunteers to Nottinghamshire County Council I said as much, thank you all for coming and participating in such a tremendously unique event, you truly shared in making it a "Night to Remember".

**Richard**



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Ann, Councillor Alan Davison and Mrs Jean Davison and Richard



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Judith Swann, DL, Ann, Richard, Mrs Jean Davison, Cllr. A. Davison, Cllr. Chris Baron, Cllr. Peter Barnes and Cllr. Mrs Sandra Barnes

**Welcome Speech  
by County Councillor Alan Davison  
Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council**

Literacy Volunteers in Nottinghamshire Schools was formed in 1996 to help children with reading difficulties overcome their problems and find that reading can be fun.

In this your 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year Nottinghamshire County Council is delighted to provide a Civic Reception to celebrate your undoubted achievements and in recognition of the service given to primary school children over the last decade.

237 Volunteers help, on average, 1000 children per week during term time in 114 schools County and Citywide and the dedication and professionalism shown by you is fully acknowledged and greatly appreciated by member schools.

I could not let this occasion pass, for obvious reasons, without saying how pleased I am regarding the progress of Year 1 of your Bassetlaw Project and wish you every success in Year 2, which will help so many more children in my own particular area.

Congratulations and thanks to you all and I hope you have an extra special year and that the next 10 years prove as invaluable to the children of Nottinghamshire as your first 10 have.

Have a good evening!

**Reply by  
Mrs Ann Sanderson, Chairman  
Literacy Volunteers in Nottinghamshire Schools**

10 years ago, the thought that I may be standing here today, thanking the County Council for their support over the years and for hosting this celebration for Literacy Volunteers, did not cross my mind.

The lady who founded our Charity - Julie O'Neill - is with us this evening and is, I am sure, as thrilled as I am at what we have achieved.

The enthusiasm and dedication of our Volunteers is being recognised tonight and is what our schools and the children we help appreciate about us and we are proud of this. The same enthusiasm and dedication of our staff provides our Volunteers with training and ongoing support when placed in schools.

On behalf of our Volunteers I would like to thank our excellent team of six staff led by Richard Wray, with Karen, Heather, Sue, Rachel and Toni for their vital contribution to the charity and although they work part time give over and above their allotted hours, also considering themselves Volunteers.

Our Deputy Lord Lieutenant Judith Swann succeeded Julie O'Neill as Manager and for two years carried on the natural progression of the Charity, which has been further enhanced and developed by Richard, our current Manager.

I would like to take this opportunity to give a personal thank you to Richard for his help and support to myself and

the Committee, guiding us through the many and varied aspects of running a charity, my thanks also to the Committee Members for the extra hours they also contribute.

If a child has difficulty with reading, it has difficulty with communication, the words and phrases useful to us as adults are learned in our formative years and are part of the social and employment skills required throughout life. Although the written question is not the only aspect of SATs and other exams, if you can't read the question - you can't give the answer.

Once again on behalf of Literacy Volunteers a sincere thank you to the County Council for hosting this wonderful evening for us in recognition of a decade of "one to one reading help".

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Colour copies of all photographs printed in this souvenir supplement can be obtained from:

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quoting the appropriate reference number.  
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### Executive Committee



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Julia Orme, Pam Meese, David Thrower, Louie Williams  
George Maddox, Ann Sanderson, Kamlesh Passi  
(not present Gordon Solway, Kate Howat)

### Staff Team



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Karen Ballinger, Richard Wray  
Rachel Morgan, Sue Marriott, Heather Brooksbank, Toni Edwards