

Who does Bag Books help?

Bag Books exists to help enrich the lives of children, teenagers and adults with the most profound intellectual impairments and physical disabilities.

How does Bag Books help them?

We provide educational resources (multi-sensory story-packs) and training to their carers and educators. Story-packs are specifically devised for those who cannot understand words and pictures. They offer learning, communication and fun to those with severe learning disabilities (a developmental age of up to six years) or profound learning disabilities (a developmental age of under eighteen months).

What is a multi-sensory story-pack?

Multi-sensory stories are told through actions, linking emotional and physical experiences. A story-pack contains a simple tale and relevant actions which capture the listener's attention through sight, touch, motion, sound or smell.



Topical Fundraiser - Something for nothing

When you buy online at **Amazon, HMV, Asda, M&S, Littlewoods Direct, Mothercare, Game** or a host of other online stores, you can give to Bag Books at no cost to you!

Go to the **www.bagbooks.org** homepage first, and click through to the site you want on the lower left, then shop as normal. Bag Books will get commission, so tell all of your friends and relatives!

Desmond's Scrapbook

I've had another exhausting few months, keeping up with our Story-Go-Round Tours and going off on my travels again (this was me skiing in Lake Placid, USA). It looks like I'll be carrying a lot of boxes during Bag Books' move to south London, so I think I should get back to bed to conserve my strength.

You can contact me between naps at **desmond@bagbooks.org** or find me on Facebook by searching for my e-mail address.



love Des



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Moving On

Bag Books is growing. The huge success of Story-Go-Round has led to a 25% increase in demand for multi-sensory stories in just a year. So, we are moving.

Fulham has been our home for many years, but our new workshop and offices in south London will be a major step up. Not only is it much bigger, but it is also much better configured: storage space will be near the workshop (instead of in a basement); there will be a Service Office, where all aspects of our charitable work are run; and upstairs will be our Support Office, for fundraising, admin and management.

www.bagbooks.org has our latest contact details.

Now, a few words from Dean Casswell, Bag Books' new Chief Executive.

I am writing to introduce myself and to tell you what an honour it is to be joining such a unique and worthwhile charity.

For the past 17 years, I worked at Contact a Family – a charity for parents with disabled children – where I was Director of Finance and Fundraising. During my time there, the charity grew ten-fold, so I have high hopes for Bag Books' future.



Chris Fuller, from whom I have taken over, will leave in 2009, but until then she has agreed to stay on as our Director of Services – not least to help recruit a suitable permanent successor.

Bag Books was 15 years old in September so I'm mindful of the tremendous amount of work, knowledge, skill and dedication that Chris and Richard Fuller have put into the charity during that time. Richard, too, will be leaving 2009, so I'm busy learning the ropes from them and hope to guide the charity forward with a steady hand.

Thanks to them for their work; and thanks to you for your support. Now, onward and upward.

Dean Casswell
Chief Executive



Charity Registration
Number 1026432

The Touring Goes On



Story-Go-Round reached the Southeast in September. We spent four solid weeks visiting libraries from Aylesbury to Brighton, from the Medway to the Solent.

But not resting on laurels of any kind, our Story-Go-Round Coordinator, Kate Blake, continued right on with organising our Tours of the North (for November and December 2008) and the Northwest (for January and February 2009).

Meet Matilda

Our latest title is a multi-sensory adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's story "Matilda". It tells the tale of a little girl who discovers that she is different from the other children. With the support of her kindly teacher, Matilda triumphs over obstacles and villains.

Of course, "Matilda" is full of the kind of Dahl naughtiness that every child loves. Our version includes a spilling water glass, a collapsing teacher and even a scab to pick off!

This is Bag Books' first adaptation of an existing story, and was made possible

with the generous support of the BAND Trust and the kind permission of the Roald Dahl Literary Estate.



A Gift in your Will

How you choose to give to charity is a personal and private matter; all the more so if you are thinking about making a gift in your will.

Would you consider giving Bag Books a small percentage of whatever is left after you have looked after your family and friends?

Contact Jason Longbottom if you would like some information on how to do this. That is all we will send. We will not call you; we will not add you to any automatic mailing lists; and we will not ask you what you have left us.

Mini Updates

Flora London Marathon 2009 – If you would like to be considered for one of Bag Books' places in the Flora London Marathon 2009, email: marathon@bagbooks.org indicating how much sponsorship you expect to raise.

Four Friends – We had tremendous news, over the summer, that four old friends of Bag Books – the Wates Foundation, the Baily Thomas Charity Fund, the Foyle Foundation and the Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation – are each giving us five-figure donations!

Website Update – Our website has been given an overhaul. It has more information and now meets internationally recognised disability access criteria. Not only that, but it has even won a couple of awards. Surf to www.bagbooks.org to see what's new.

5K Women – Team Bag Books triumphed in the adidas Women's 5K Challenge in Hyde Park. Whether they ran, jogged or walked, every one of our 18 participants was a winner! Well done and see you next year, ladies.



A Sticky Christmas

This Christmas, Bag Books is offering you a unique way to show and share your support.

For £2 you can buy a sheet of 20 gold stickers. Each sticker is decorated in festive style and says "This sticker represents a donation of 10p. Bag

Books". Use them to personalise your own cards, to seal envelopes, or just to wrap or decorate the presents you give.

There are four designs, which can be ordered individually or on a mixed sheet. Go to www.bagbooks.org/stickers.html to see them or to order.