

# Welcome to Day 6 of Elizabeth Wilkinson's 'Inspirational to me dyslexics guest blog for Dyslexia Awareness Week 2020



**What's your Name?** Sally Joyner

**How old are you?** 54

**Where in the world are you?** Shrewsbury, Shropshire

**What is your occupation?** Hearing loss communication specialist

**What's the name of your business/employer/university?** In The Loop

**How old were you when you were diagnosed dyslexic?** 45

**What difference has finding out made?** It helped me to make sense. When I say that I always knew I did things a different way to other people and knowing helped me understand why I was doing it a different way - and it is still the longest method of doing the task!

**Which do you prefer: *I am dyslexic, or I have Dyslexia?*** I am Dyslexic

**What three words would you use to describe yourself?** Patient, (I had to be to get where I am now lol) Persistent (again I had to be to keep going) Clever ( I never thought I was, but, I now know I am)

**What 3 words would your friends and family choose to describe you?** Amazing Inspirational knowledgeable

**What is your best/proudest YES! moment?** Winning the Ken McKenzie award when I was a union learning representative with the Communication Workers Union (CWU)

**If you could have one gadget, piece of equipment or software for free - what would it be, and why?** I don't think I've found my dream gadget / piece of equipment or software yet. I've recommended all these to people I've advised in the past but can't think of one for me

**If you had the day off to do anything at all - what would you do?** paper crafting, knitting, baking, walking in the sunshine, reading, or meeting friends for a meal or coffee. Can I be greedy and do all those in one day lol

**Who on the planet inspires you the most?** Francesca Martinez, a disabled comedienne (she has cerebral palsy)

**Did you like School?** 1 = not at all and 10 = loved it: 10



**What did you like most about school?** The beautiful friends that I made along the way, at least 2 of them are still in touch with me. They made such a huge difference to my life.

**Who was your favourite teacher and why?** Mr Sandford. was my maths teacher for a couple of years. He would keep explaining and explaining until you got it. Unfortunately, I didn't have him for 5 years or I'd have done better in maths.

**If you could go back in time, what one piece of advice would you offer to your younger school aged self, and what age would that be?** Grasp every opportunity with both hands, and always say yes. That's how I ended up doing the qualifications I've done

**Are you glad you went for your dyslexia assessment?** Absolutely. It allowed me to help when I was an adult learner and that helped greatly when training as a lipreading teacher.

**Is there anything you wish someone had told you before you went for your assessment?** No definitely not. I was well advised

**If you could go back in time what message would you give to your 13-year-old self?** Things will get better, honestly

**Do you have any advice for anyone who has just been diagnosed dyslexic?** Ask for help. Explain as best you can to people about YOUR dyslexia (we are all different)

Anything else you would like to add or say?

“Never give up, show up and do your best. Ask if you need help and change things if they aren't going in the right direction for you.”

*Sally Joyner, 2020*

How to get in contact with Sally at In The Loop:

Twitter: @shropsdeafaware

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hearinglossspecialistshropshire>

Website: <https://www.intheloophearing.co.uk/>

Linked in: [https://www.linkedin.com/feed/?trk=nav\\_responsive\\_tab\\_home](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/?trk=nav_responsive_tab_home)