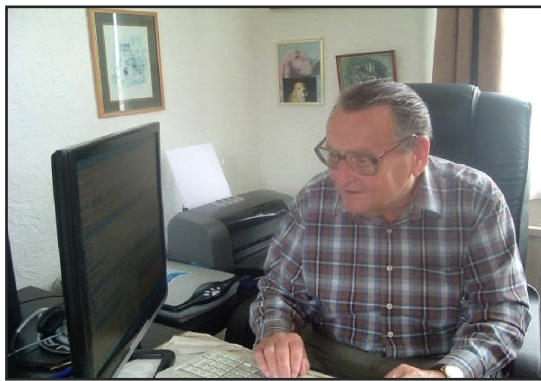




NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



# Case Study

## IT Community Champions

This case study focuses on IT Champion, Sarah

Sarah accessed IT Community Champions training via the Library in June 2008 following an advertisement in her local press (The Keyworth Directory).

She is aged 60 plus, with two grown up children. One of her sons is computer literate. Sarah's other son is autistic and Sarah has been able to put her newly acquired computer knowledge to good use spending time with him at the computer, completing tasks such as cutting and pasting and poster making. This quality time Sarah is spending with her son means a lot to her and has the knock on effect of building on her son's very limited computer skills.

Sarah lives independently on a Farm in the south of the county and occupies an annex which is attached to the home of her son and daughter-in-law.

Sarah contracted polio when she was working in a children's nursery in 1956 at the age of 18. Unfortunately, her health has deteriorated recently and she now has to walk using two sticks. However, she is a very independent lady and leads a very full life (she heads straight off to her luncheon club following her IT training sessions).

Sarah advises that using the internet has enhanced her confidence and well being. Sarah has visited websites such as the Post Polio Syndrome site and Physiotherapy sites to research programmes which relate to her specific disability. This has opened up a whole new world to Sarah with regard to her health issues. When visiting her doctor, Sarah has taken the information she acquired from these websites with her and feels that she is now armed with vital information for her consultation which enables her to take ownership of her own health care.

She now uses the internet for a wide range of services. She shops on line, looks at bus timetables and accesses her Library site to renew her Library books. She has recently renewed her disabled parking ticket over the internet.

Sarah expressed her delight at being given the opportunity to join in with the IT Champions Training programme and made the comment that she really enjoyed the social aspect of the course. She hopes that the project is able to carry on in the future giving her peers the opportunity to gain IT skills as she has, which will have a real impact on the lives of herself and her immediate family.