

Photo: Kenny Logan playing Rugby Union for Scotland



Taking hard knocks

Former Scottish international rugby union player Kenny Logan is now an ambassador for the charity Dyslexia Action. Ross Duncan, a Home Office Disability Support (HODS) network National Executive Committee member, took the opportunity to interview Kenny to find out more about how he uses his own experiences to support others with dyslexia.



For a man so used to taking hard knocks playing international rugby union, tackling the difficult and awkward issue of having dyslexia at school presented a very different challenge for Kenny Logan.

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Just like so many people in a similar position Kenny didn't excel at school, but instead shone when it came to using his physical rather than mental ability. In fact, one of the positives with dyslexia can mean having an aptitude to problem solve - which is a useful skill when running with the ball and trying to avoid a head-on tackle.

It wasn't until after Kenny had left school that he addressed his issues with dyslexia. Kenny says: “At 17 or 18 I didn't know what it meant. But when I turned 30, I decided to do something about it.”

Although not able to turn back the clock, Kenny now uses his profile and role as Founding Director of Logan Sports Marketing to good use to explain to business leaders the merits and advantages in employing dyslexic staff. He uses his personal experience to try to break down the stigma, and to promote that people with dyslexia have a valuable contribution to offer any employer willing to provide the correct support and the right opportunities.

Since retiring from rugby Kenny is now able to concentrate on other pleasures like playing golf, but he also uses his time as an ambassador for Dyslexia Action, a charity that provides support and encouragement for children and adults with dyslexia. Kenny says: “Even today dyslexia is still not recognised to the extent it should be, but thanks to the work of organisations like Dyslexia Action people with dyslexia now have somewhere to turn to for support and advice.”

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