Dyslexia Pioneers.

In 1972 when the B.D.A. was founded, these pioneers were active. All Pioneers were nominated by Jean Hutchins, Associate Member of the British Dyslexia Association.

1. Dyslexia Pioneers.

1.1. Dame Helen Arkell.
Helen Arkell, severely dyslexic, set up a dyslexia centre in London. The Edith Norrie letter-case was the basis of her teaching, i.e. awareness of the mouth position for making speech sounds. The Centre moved to Farnham, Surrey. Helen 'retired' to teach offenders in prisons.

http://www.arkellcentre.org.uk/About-Us/Helen-Arkell.html

1.2. Kathleen Hickey.
Kathleen studied the Orton-Gillingham-Stillman methods in Texas. The 'Hickey Multisensory Language Course' was very different from 'Alpha to Omega'. It led to the systematic phonic schemes. She set up the Dyslexia Institute in Egham, Surrey, with the support of North Surrey Dyslexia Association, and Wendy Fisher.

http://www.amazon.co.uk/The-Hickey-Multisensory-Language-Course/dp/1870332520

1.3. Professor Bevé Hornsby.
Bevé also visited Texas, and wrote Alpha to Omega with Frula Shear. Bevé set up the Dyslexia Clinic at St Bartholomew's Hospital, and trained parents to teach. The Hornsby International Centre in London followed, which later merged with the Dyslexia Institute to form Dyslexia Action.

http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/authors/beve-hornsby

1.4. Professor Tim Miles, O.B.E.
Tim launched the Bangor Dyslexia Unit in North Wales, now called the Miles Dyslexia Centre. He devised the 'Pattern of difficulties', and the Bangor Dyslexia Test, which has led to many checklists and screening tools. Tim was a founder member of the B.D.A. Music Committee.


1.5. Dr Margaret Newton.
Margaret also did research, at Aston University, and developed the Aston Index. It was the first battery of tests to help teachers identify dyslexia. Her colleague, Michael Thomson, noticed the WISC sub-tests that indicated dyslexia, the ACID profile (Arithmetic, Coding, Information and Digit Span tests).

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/57772807694246042/

1.6. Marion Welchman, M.B.E.
Marion set up the Bath Association for the Study of Dyslexia (BASD), the first L.D.A., and a B.D.A. founder member. Her M.B.E. was awarded for services to the B.D.A. She was the driving force for the accreditation of AMBDA. The B.D.A. inaugurated the Marion Welchman Award.

http://dysvet.learnerprofiler.co.uk/media/18916/international_dyslexia_.pdf
2. Pioneer B.D.A. staff members.

As Administrator, Jennifer moved the B.D.A. office from a London attic to her home in Peppard, Oxfordshire, and then to London Road, Reading. She oversaw the B.D.A. Diploma, the Rainbow Ball, the House of Lords Reception, provisions for examinations and driving tests, and free Directory Enquiries.

http://www.peppardnews.co.uk/About%20us/JenniferSmith

2.2. Louise Aitken
Louise Aitken started with the Lancashire Dyslexia Association, served as B.D.A. Vice Chairman and is still a member of Wiltshire D.A. Louise edited the first Contact magazines in 1982, supported by the Chair, Lord Harry Renwick, until 1997, to foster communication between B.D.A. office and its members.

https://opencorporates.com/officers/47797068

2.3. Cleone Parker.
Cleone Parker, now Cleone Augur, started at the B.D.A. office with Jennifer Smith and developed B.D.A. helpline. At this time, before the internet, Webs and e-mail, the Local Dyslexia Associations were the only B.D.A. members. Cleone and the helpline supported the L.D.A.s well, by phone.

2.4. Giannina Zerilli.
Giannina joined the B.D.A. in December 1982 part-time, dealing with Helpline, Membership and Accounts. In 1984, Giannina became full-time Accounts Administrator. She is the longest-serving staff member. Giannina is also the B.D.A. Archive Keeper and has records going back to the beginning of B.D.A. in 1972.

http://www.zoominfo.com/p/Giannina-Zerilli/1401711581

2.5. Sue Flohr, M.B.E.
Sue Flohr joined the B.D.A. on 6 September 1993. She shared Helpline management with Cleone Parker for some years. She is now Helpline and Policy Manager, and attends meetings on behalf of the B.D.A. In 2015, Sue was awarded the M.B.E. for services to dyslexia.
3. Further dyslexia pioneers.

Baroness Warnock, B.D.A. President, chaired the 1978 Warnock Report, which included 'Specific Learning Difficulties' (SpLD) as a 'Special Educational Need' for the first time. The B.D.A. had been campaigning for this. SpLD included 'dyslexia', but the term was not accepted until later.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Warnock,_Baroness_Warnock

3.2. Jean Augur.
Jean was B.D.A. first Education Director. She had worked with Kathleen Hickey at the Dyslexia Institute, set up a Surrey CC Remedial Centre and was on North Surrey Dyslexia Association Committee. She was a popular speaker and was well supported by her husband Frank Augur.

http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/obituary-jean-augur-1463081.html

3.3. Violet Brand, M.B.E.
Violet Brand set up the Watford Dyslexia Centre and still belongs to the Hertfordshire D.A. She devised the RSA Diploma in SpLD, which merged into the OCR Diploma. Violet inspired the SPELD organisations in Australia and New Zealand, and wrote the scheme 'Spelling Made Easy'.

http://www.spellingmadeeasy.co.uk/violet-brand/

3.4. Anne Brereton.
Ann was B.D.A Vice Chair when members elected such trustees. She ran 3 Summer Schools for Hertfordshire D.A., and still belongs to it. She persuaded Hertfordshire CC to set up dyslexia bases in schools. She developed the B.D.A. Befriender system, training L.D.A. helpliners to become Befrienders.

3.5. Robin Salter.
Robin was treasurer, then chair of Bedfordshire D.A., a B.D.A. Vice Chair, and a founder member of the European Dyslexia Association (E.D.A.). He became E.D.A. first treasurer and second President. Robin's wife Jennifer, sharing his activities, was E.D.A. secretary. He was the co-editor of 'The International Book of Dyslexia'.