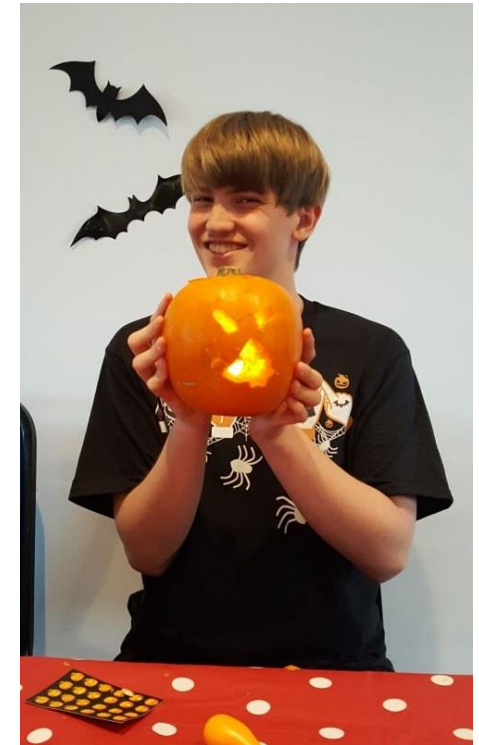




# Autumn 2023 newsletter

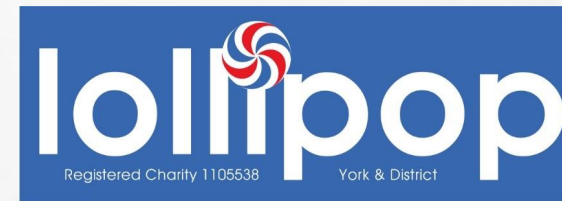
Issue 25



**LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)**

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

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**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
THE LOLLIPOP  
CHRISTMAS PARTY  
SAT 9 DEC**



# Lollipop AGM reminder

Annual General Meeting



Laura Walker  
Chair of Lollipop

**Every autumn, we host our Annual General Meeting (AGM).**

This is a great opportunity for trustees, staff, members, parents and volunteers to look back on what's happened over the last 12 months and share and discuss our plans for the future. To comply with the Charity Commission's rules, we need a minimum of 12 members/parents to attend. So please join us if you can...

**WHEN:** Thursday 23 November, 6.30 – 8.30 pm

**WHERE:** Online on Zoom – a BSL interpreter will be present.

**We really value your support and hope to see as many of you there as possible!**

If you haven't booked your place, please sign up via the Eventbrite link below by **Friday 17 November**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lollipop-agm-thursday-23rd-november-2023-tickets-745096201797>

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# Staff and volunteer news

## Welcome back

Service Manager, Heidi, is back from maternity leave and excited to be catching up with everyone and all that's been happening at Lollipop! She's returned to work part-time, on a job-share basis with Deb (see below for details). Please join us in giving her a very warm welcome back to the team!



**Heidi's working days:**

Mon, Tues, & Wed

**Email address:**

[servicemanager@lollipopyork.org.uk](mailto:servicemanager@lollipopyork.org.uk)

**Deb's working days:**

Tues, Thurs & Fri

**NEW email address:**

[operationsmanager@lollipopyork.org.uk](mailto:operationsmanager@lollipopyork.org.uk)

## Duke of Edinburgh Award



Earlier this year, Lollipop volunteer, Darcy, was awarded a Bronze [Duke of Edinburgh](#) award in recognition of her achievements in 4 key areas:

- Volunteering
- Physical health & fitness
- Skills
- A 2-day outdoor expedition

Between April 2022 and June 2023, Darcy completed 13 hours of volunteering with Lollipop – helping out at member activities, awareness-raising events, and with fundraising. Here she is posing proudly with her certificate. Well done Darcy! Massive thanks and congratulations from everyone at Lollipop!

If you are a Lollipop member or supporter and have good news you'd like to share via our newsletter, please email Abi at [admin@lollipopyork.org.uk](mailto:admin@lollipopyork.org.uk)

[BSL VIDEO](#)



# All the world's a stage!

**This term, some of our budding actors and performers have been getting in touch with their creative selves!**

A MASSIVE thank you to the award-winning [Story Craft Theatre](#) for bringing their amazing under-the-sea adventure to life for our younger members! And to [Pilot Theatre](#), for involving our older members in an interactive workshop exploring the availability of creative arts for D/deaf young people in York.

## [Story Craft Theatre Workshop](#)



## [Pilot Theatre Workshop](#)



Click the red links above to find out more...

[BSL VIDEO](#)



# Horrrifying Halloween fun!

Members have also been getting into the spooky spirit of things this season, with some super scary **Halloween costumes, crafts and games!** A huge thank you to the amazing [ARTventurers](#) for their creepy crafts workshop! And to York & District Deaf Society for co-hosting a spooktacular Halloween party!

## [Crafty Halloween Workshop](#)



## [Spooky Halloween Party](#)



Click the red links above for more info and photos!

[BSL VIDEO](#)



# Upcoming activities...

Our final activities for this term (ahead of our cracking Christmas party!) are a trip for our members aged 0-5 to climb, slide, swing and bounce at the awesome [Wacky Warehouse](#)...

PLUS a world-class indoor bouldering experience for members aged 5+ at [Freeklime York](#).

## Wacky Warehouse

Sun 26 Nov | 9.30 -11 am



## Indoor climbing

Sun 26 Nov | 4-6 pm



See your member invites for further details and **BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!**

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# Lollipop Christmas party

It's nearly that time of year again! Woo-hoo! **SAVE THE DATE** and don't miss out on this festive celebration for all the family!

**WHEN:** **SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER**, 2.00 - 4.30 pm

**WHERE:** [Bishopthorpe Sports & Social Club](#), 12 Main Street, Bishopthorpe, York.

Join us for lots of festive games and entertainment, including the [I Can Play!](#) team (back by popular demand) with their legendary brass band and sing and sign fun!

In addition to our [Christmas Prize Draw](#) there will also be a separate Christmas raffle with tickets available to purchase on the day and more great prizes on offer from [Bettys](#) | [Loves Hair & Beauty](#) | [York Theatre Royal](#) | [Monk Park Farm](#) | [Pool Bridge Farm](#) | [The Principal Hotel](#) | [Samantha Ness Hair & Nails](#) | [York Chocolate Story](#), and more!

**Keep an eye out for your email invitation for further info.**

**And book EARLY to avoid disappointment!**

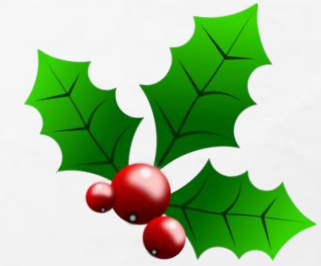


[BSL VIDEO](#)



# Lollipop Christmas prize draw

Tickets are now on sale for our fabulous festive prize draw, one of our biggest fundraisers of the year! **Be in with a chance of winning some AMAZING prizes!**



## TOP PRIZES

Family break to [Haggerston Castle Holiday Park](#), Northumberland

Prosecco lunch for two at [Rudding Park Hotel](#), Harrogate

Afternoon tea for two at [The Grand Hotel](#), York

## Plus other great prizes from:

- [Loves Hair & Beauty](#)
- [Castle Howard](#)
- [Panda Mami](#)
- [York Racecourse](#)
- [Nandos](#)

[Click here](#) for full details.

**Tickets are available online at:** <https://gofund.me/0c0ca226>. Please share this fundraiser link far and wide to help us raise as much as possible. Tickets are £1 each. Simply donate to the page to buy entries into the draw. Paper tickets are also available from Cheryl ([parentsupport@lollipopyork.org.uk](mailto:parentsupport@lollipopyork.org.uk)) and will be available at our Christmas Party on 9 December where the draw is taking place. **GOOD LUCK!**

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# Fundraising updates

## DRAGON BOAT SPONSORSHIP

Back in July, our brave team of paddlers (AKA DEAFinitely Lollipop) took part in the [York Rotary Dragon Boat Challenge](#). We recently received confirmation that the team raised an INCREDIBLE **£2,450.59** in sponsorship!



A special thank you to everyone who took part and supported the Good Ship Lollipop's voyage down the River Ouse.

Deb and Cheryl were very proud to attend the awards evening at York Mansion House last month to celebrate this AMAZING achievement! Till next year.....!

## TESCO GRANT WINNERS

A HUGE thank you to Tesco and everyone who used their little blue tokens to vote for Lollipop in the Tesco Community Grants (now [Stronger Starts](#)) scheme earlier this year.

We are thrilled to have received the most votes meaning we get a WHOPPING **£1,500!**

Here's some of the Lollipop team being presented with the all-important cheque at Tesco Clifton Moor!



[BSL VIDEO](#)



# Fundraising news continued...

The kindness and generosity of loyal Lollipop supporters and the wider community really help to support our work and raise awareness of what we do!



**MASSIVE thanks** to everyone who chose to support Lollipop as part of the [Co-op Local Community Fund](#).

We're delighted to confirm that, with your help, we raised a WHOPPING **£3,018.91**.

## Charles Brotherton Trust

**HUGE thanks** also the [Charles Brotherton Trust](#) for their **£325** grant to support provision of Lollipop activities.

We're also SUPER grateful to...

The [Francis Drake of York Freemasons lodge](#) for their generous **£500** donation.



[Aviva](#) York for their **£250** match funding in support of Hannah and Phoebe's [BSL Challenge](#).



And [Terrington Hall Prep School](#) and [Manor Church of England Academy](#) who kindly held non-uniform days for Lollipop, raising a combined total of nearly **£600**. AMAZING!

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# Lollipop heroes



**A MASSIVE thank you to Emma Moore for choosing to raise money for Lollipop (and The Island) by running over 200 miles in the [GB Ultras 'Race across Scotland'](#) next year.**

We're totally in awe of her strength and stamina and very grateful to her for taking part in this incredible challenge to help raise vital funds for us.

We'll be following Emma's training and wishing her all the very best every step of the way! Click below to read her story and show your support:

<https://www.givewheel.com/fundraising/1378/just-a-few-moore-miles-and-worth-every-step/>

**HUGE congratulations to former Lollipop member Sarah-Jade Walker for winning 'New Business of the Year Award' at the [YorkMix Hero Awards 2023](#).**

We will be partnering with [Sign with Sarah-Jade](#) next year for a series of sign language workshops aimed at our baby and toddler members and their parents, so watch this space!

Meanwhile, you can read more about her amazing achievement [here](#).



**[BSL VIDEO](#)**



# Deaf Advocacy Service update

In our last newsletter we shared news of a proposal for a [York-based Deaf Advocacy Service](#) put together by Vicky Dixon from Community Links. Vicky was seeking feedback from D/deaf\* adults and young people aged 16+ to help make this a reality.



We contacted Vicky recently to find out how the proposal was going...as she explains:

*"We received some amazing feedback from parents so please thank them all and the young people too for their support. I'm now in the early stages of recruiting a Steering Group to start in the new year – the group will include representatives from different parts of the D/deaf community to hopefully give direction, design and co-produce the service, so that it is what D/deaf people truly want and need."*



Vicky is seeking volunteers to join the Steering Group and thinks it would be great to have a young person on board to represent the views of deaf young people. **If you would be interested in joining the Steering Group as an adult or young person, or would like more information, please contact Vicky at [vicky.dixon@commlinks.co.uk](mailto:vicky.dixon@commlinks.co.uk)**

\* People who identify as: D/deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, Deafened or Deafblind who communicate via BSL, spoken English, Sign Supported English (SSE), written English, non-British Sign Language or any combination of these.

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# York Disability Week

Now in its 7<sup>th</sup> year, [York Disability Week](#) (25 Nov – 3 Dec) offers something for ALL, with 30 events across the city or online, almost all FREE to attend.

Organised by a network of individuals, organisations and community groups, it brings together a diverse and exciting programme of talks, workshops, exhibitions, entertainment and more! Here are just two events that might be of interest, but there's a whole host of fun and interesting things to choose from...check out the [full programme here!](#)



[www.yorkdisabilityweek.org](http://www.yorkdisabilityweek.org)

## DEAF-FRIENDLY 'POETRY FOR ALL'

**Fri 24 Nov | 7.30-10pm | [National Centre for Early Music](#)**

An accessible poetry event for anyone facing barriers to enjoying poetry. Great acoustics, BSL interpretation and big screen projection of all poems! £7 general admission / £5 concessions, carers free, service dogs welcome. [Book online](#), phone NCEM on 01904 658338 or pay at the door.

## 'SENIOR IMPS' INCLUSIVE MUSIC PROJECT | AGES 11+

**Mon 27 Nov | 6-7.30pm | [Accessible Arts & Media](#)**

A fully inclusive FREE music project for disabled and non-disabled young people aged 11+. The group play traditional and accessible instruments, musical games and enjoy writing their own songs, which they then sing and sign. To book, email [hannah.hardcastle@aamedia.org.uk](mailto:hannah.hardcastle@aamedia.org.uk), call 01904 626965 or text 07762 428818.

[BSL VIDEO](#)



# Useful resources

## Max card



The [Max Card](#) is the UK's leading discount card for families of children with additional needs, designed to help them save money on great days out.

Families can use the card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission to castles, zoos, bowling alleys, trampoline parks and much more. The cards are provided by Local Authorities and selected charities across the UK:

- **Families living in York** can [apply online](#) or email FIS York on [fis@york.gov.uk](mailto:fis@york.gov.uk)
- **Families living in North Yorkshire** can [apply online](#) or email [maxcard@shine21.org](mailto:maxcard@shine21.org)

## Mixmups



[Mixmups](#) is a brand new, deaf-created animation for three to five-year-olds featuring disabled lead characters.

The series was created by talented deaf writer, Rebecca Atkinson, who is also co-founder of the groundbreaking [Toy Like Me](#) campaign.

With an impressive lineup of 52 episodes, each lasting ten minutes, the series is inspired by children's love of mixing things together as a means of play, exploration and discovery.

**Catch Mixmups every Sat and Sun at 8.15am on Channel 5's Milkshake! and [streaming on My5](#) (BSL included).**

**Our next newsletter will be coming your way in the Spring Term. Until then, enjoy the festivities! We can't wait to see you all at our Christmas Party!**

**[BSL VIDEO](#)**