



Lollipop newsletter

January 2021 - Issue 8

**Hello and Happy
New Year!**

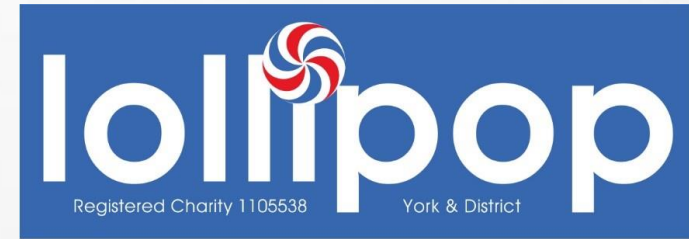


LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

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- **Important announcement from the Chair**
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- Welcome to Niamh, our new Deaf Mentor
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- 'Declutter & Donate' – how to turn your unwanted stuff into Lollipop donations!
- Fun & Games – Bingo winners, puzzles and dates for your diary!



Note: There are several links in this newsletter. To open them in a new window, hold down the Control key (or Command key on a Mac) whilst clicking on the link.

Cover photo: The Janovicius Family at Lollipop's 15th birthday bash in May 2019.

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3imS2if>

An urgent message...



Penny McDonald - Chair

Dear Members, I hope you are all fit and well in these strange times.

As you are aware, the Trustees have been discussing the future of Lollipop. These discussions started well before COVID-19 due to a lack of engagement from members, and because our Lottery funding will end in April.

Discussions have continued, and I had hoped to have some clarity about the way forward after the Trustees' meeting held this week. However, due to staff challenges, and the potential resignations of a number of Trustees, discussions have taken a different direction.

At present, because of staff illness and childcare issues we have taken the difficult decision to suspend activities and furlough staff from **Monday 18 January** - until further notice. Heidi, the Service Manager, will still be working, running the Charity and is available for any queries on the Lollipop mobile **07537 863927** or by email servicemanager@lollipoppyork.org.uk

Message continued on next page...

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/2LDge43>

Lollipop Board of Trustees

The Trustee board has eight members including the three Officers: Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

Gavin Young and David Fearnside have recently left the Trustee Board. Please join us in saying a big thank you for their support to Lollipop and wishing them well for the future.

It is likely that four other Trustees; myself, the other two Officers and another Trustee will step down at the end of July. These resignations do not have anything to do with the way the Charity is run but are because of the personal circumstances of each Trustee.

The Constitution states that we must have at least five Trustees, three of whom are the Officers. If we do not recruit any more Trustees, it is likely that the Charity will have to consider closing. We will do all we can to try to recruit Trustees, but times are difficult, and we have to be realistic that this might not happen.

Please consider if you, any of your family, or anyone you know with appropriate skills could take on the role of an Officer or Trustee. If Lollipop is to survive we need to recruit new Trustees who would be willing to take Lollipop forward for the future and take on the Officers' roles. Trustees meet every two months and are responsible for the overall running of the Charity. **Please contact me on the email below if you would like more information.**

Penny McDonald: chair@lollipoppyork.org.uk

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3oLED5S>

Special General Meeting



In light of the important announcement on the previous pages, I'd like to invite you to a **Special General Meeting** on Zoom on **Tuesday 2 March at 7pm.**

At this meeting we will hopefully be voting prospective Officers and Trustees onto the board...or alternatively, voting to agree the difficult decision to close the Charity.

Names of anyone interested in being an Officer or Trustee will need to be put forward to me by **Monday 15 February**. These will then be sent out for people to either vote online or at the meeting.

In the meantime, everyone please keep safe,

Penny McDonald, Chair on behalf of the Trustees

Please reply to the Eventbrite invite you will receive next week. If you can't make the meeting you will still be able to vote or have your say by email before the meeting by contacting me at the address below.

Penny McDonald: chair@lollipoppyork.org.uk

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3qtZ4Vr>

Christmas raffle success!



Our Christmas raffle was held online for the first time this year.

A big thank you to everyone who supported it and made it a success! We raised £625 which is a fabulous achievement, especially at the end of such a difficult year.

We loved seeing everyone who joined our Christmas party and live raffle draw on Zoom. Congratulations to all of our lucky winners, especially Georgina Robinson who won the £100 top cash prize! Well done Georgina!

A special thank you to all the generous people and businesses who donated prizes and made the raffle possible. Every ticket sold raised much needed funds that will help Lollipop continue to be there for our members and their families in 2021.

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/38lNklI>

Our new Deaf Mentor



Niamh Brotherton-Baker
Deaf Mentor

Hi I'm Niamh, I am a student at the University of York studying Environmental Geography and I've recently started volunteering with Lollipop as a Deaf Mentor!

I was fully hearing until I was 8 years old when I woke up one day and I wasn't! It was a difficult time where I did everything I could possibly think of to avoid wearing my hearing aids. I refused to wear my hair up and hid them from my family.

I understand the difficulty of going through school with hearing loss, and how isolating it can feel. But I also understand the importance of being surrounded by like-minded people going through similar experiences.

That's why I wanted to become involved in Lollipop, so I can share my experiences and listen to yours so we can navigate this together and be proud of who we are!

I'm really looking forward to meeting you all, whether that be online or in person...I can't wait!

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/38ELqsm>

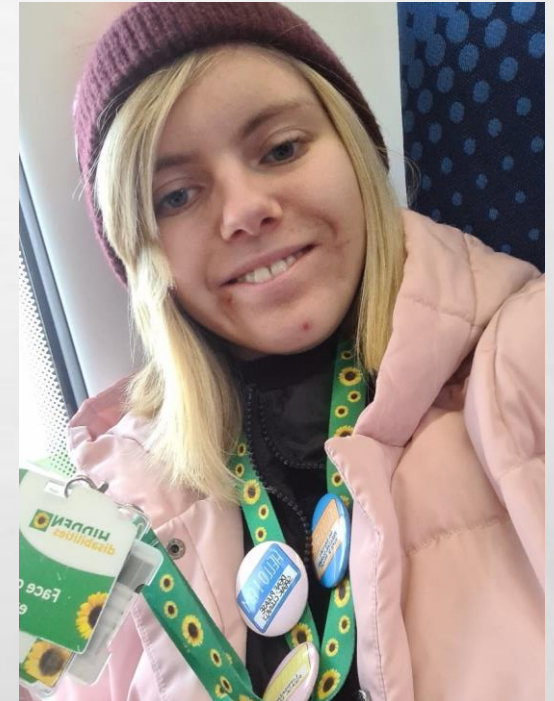
'Moore than just Deaf'

Hi, I'm Sophie Moore, a former member of Lollipop and creator of '[Moore Than Just Deaf](#)', a Facebook page dedicated to raising awareness of deafness, disability and mental health.

I am deaf myself so I wear two hearing aids and rely on lip reading; I am currently learning British Sign Language (BSL) to help me communicate with others. I also have an auditory processing disorder which means it takes longer for me to understand what has been said to me.

As a result, I often need things worded more simply and then also repeating. On top of this, I have dyslexia which makes writing essays at university difficult, and I found out earlier this year that I suffer from anxiety and depression.

I have such a supportive family and group of friends which makes things easier on me.



Sophie Moore
Founder of 'Moore than Just Deaf'

Check out my Facebook page

My 'Moore Than Just Deaf' Facebook page is about:

- making people aware of deafness, dyslexia, mental health and what an auditory processing disorder is;
- answering any questions as I don't feel there is enough awareness out there.

I also want to provide my experiences of growing up with these conditions as sometimes it is better to hear things from someone who has been through the problems you may be experiencing.



Proud to be Deaf

If you would like to follow and like my Facebook page, here's the link:

[Moore Than Just Deaf | Facebook](#)

If anyone has any questions or just wants to chat, my inbox is always open. You won't know unless you ask and I am here for you!

Not on Facebook? You can also email Sophie at moorethandeaf@gmail.com

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/39w0UxV>

Declutter and donate

Are you having a post-Christmas clear out or early spring clean?

'Declutter and donate' is a great way to make space for new gifts and toys received at Christmas and donate to charity at the same time!

If you have books/DVDs/CDs/mobile phones or other items you no longer want, don't just give or throw them away. Why not sell them online to:

1. Find them a new home
2. Do your bit for the environment
3. Help support a charity like Lollipop



Many of you may sell items on eBay or Facebook Marketplace already. Could you 'Declutter and Donate' for Lollipop? Read on to find out more...

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3nN3EMy>

How to turn unwanted stuff into Lollipop donations

This January and February we're asking our supporters to gather any unwanted items and sell them online, donating the money to Lollipop via Virgin Money Giving.

You can sell books, DVDs, CDs and mobile phones a number of ways:

The easiest is to use a website like [Music Magpie](#) or [Ziffit](#) where you simply:

- enter the details of the items you'd like to sell,
- are offered a price for them,
- then post the items free of charge to receive the money.



Once you've received payment, you can then donate the money to Lollipop!

To donate via Virgin Money Giving, simply click on the logo above or visit: <https://bit.ly/3o7xL2A>

THANK YOU! EVERY LITTLE HELPS!

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/39Aqulk>



Congratulations to Daniel Mackintosh, Mario & Ruta Janovicius, Holly Whittle and Alexander Riley who aced the Zoom bingo during [York Disability Week](#) and won some fab shopping vouchers! Well done!

Just for fun, but can you find all 6 words hidden in this snow scene?

You can find the answers to our [Christmas edition](#) BSL wordsearch on the next page.

How did you do?

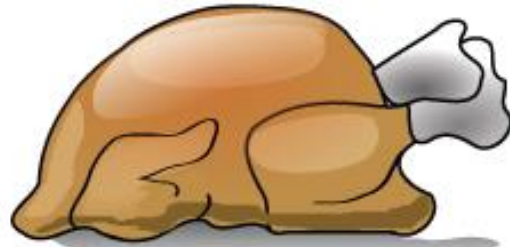
BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3sqcNOB>

BSL CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

Stocking



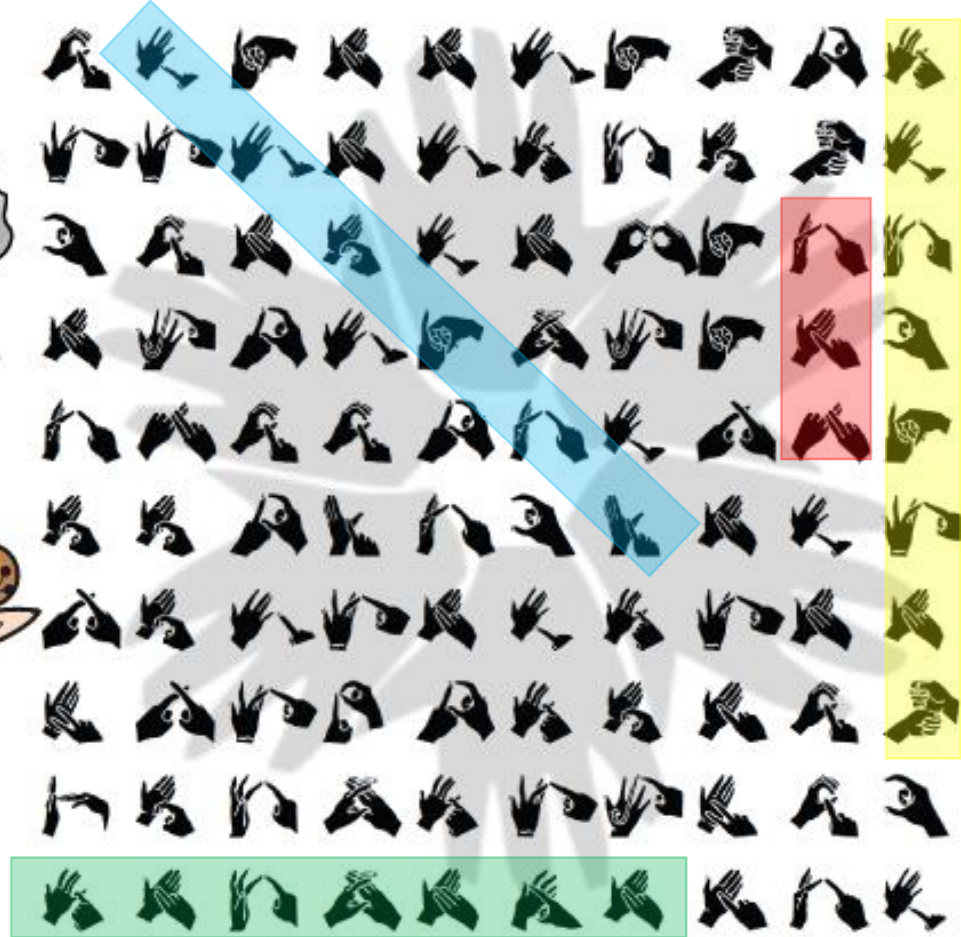
Turkey



Snowman



Elf



CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH ANSWERS!

For more BSL fun and practice, head to www.british-sign.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Don't miss out – these events will still be going ahead, before we suspend all activities until further notice.



Lollipop's Monthly Virtual Quiz

Our last online quiz for a while is at 8pm on **Friday 15 January**
Cash prizes to be won! Just £3 to take part (80% of which goes direct to Lollipop)
To find out more visit: [Lollipop's Monthly Virtual Quiz](#)



Sparkle Jelly Tots Toddler Group

Our next online session will take place at 10.30am on **Tuesday 19 January**
For more info visit: [Online Toddler Group! | Monthly Zoom Sessions](#)

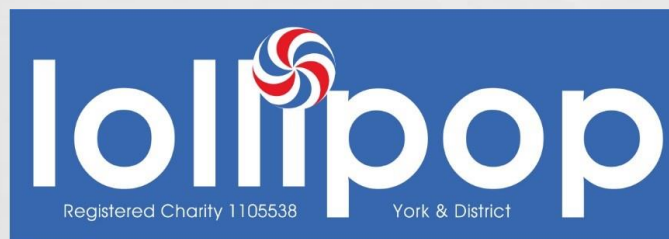


Lollipop Special General Meeting

Please join us on Zoom at 7pm on **Tuesday 2 March** to vote prospective Officers and Trustees onto the Board, or alternatively agree the difficult decision to close the Charity. Please reply to the Eventbrite invite to confirm your attendance.

If you have any queries, please email servicemanager@lollipopyork.org.uk **BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2XFodzW>

Goodbye for now...take care
and we hope to see you
again soon!



Heidi, our Service Manager, is still working and available for any queries on the Lollipop mobile 07537 863927 or by email servicemanager@lollipopyork.org.uk