

# Spring 2026 Newsletter

Issue 32



**LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)**

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

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**Cover image: Members at our February activity at The Cook's Place, Malton**



**BSL VIDEO**

# Trustees Update

**We are very happy to introduce our new Secretary!**

Our new Secretary is Lollipop parent Neil Barnes who we welcomed to our first Trustee meeting of 2026 on 12<sup>th</sup> February. As a deaf parent he brings a hugely valued perspective to our Board.

A huge thank you to out-going Board member (and part of York's Deaf and Hearing Support Team) Shelley Nicol, who we are very sad to see leave and has been a wonderful asset to the charity for the last few years!



See who all our Trustees are [here](#)

**BSL VIDEO**

# The Deaf Services Fair is back!

Tuesday 5th May in Orchard Hall at The Folk Hall, New Earswick, 6 – 8pm.



Register here for  
this FREE event

**If you are a deaf person, or know or support a deaf person living in and around York, come along to this FREE event! There may be services and organisations you haven't yet discovered!**

Confirmed stall holders are being updated regularly, and so far include...

City of York Council ([Deaf and Hearing Support Team](#)), [SEND Central](#), [Sign Health](#) and [York Family Information Service](#), [Living for Moments](#), [The Hearing Place](#), [We Care](#) (NY Police), [York CVS](#) with more being added each week and updated on our [event page](#).



**There will be BSL interpreters at this event**



**BSL VIDEO**

# Spring term activities

Our January activities were held Crazy Tykes soft play, and ObliViaR virtual reality experience!



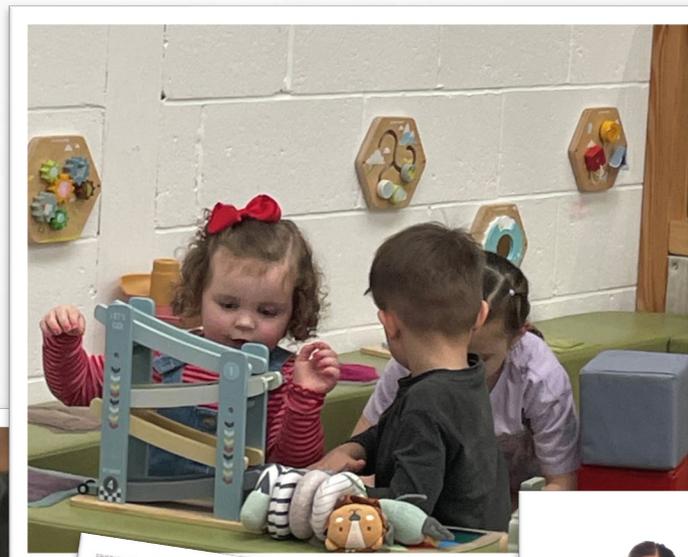
**Crazy Tykes for ages 0-7**

Unfortunately, at our activity for age 8+, ObliViaR, our usual photographer was unable to attend

**BSL VIDEO**

# Spring term activities

Photos from our February activities held in Malton!



The Little Llama for ages 0 – 5, also attended by NDCS Community Connectors!

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# Spring term activities

The  
COOK'S PLACE  
*Malton*

**Members made their own two-course lunch: pies with accompanying vegetables and biscuits for dessert! They sat down together to eat what they had made 😊**



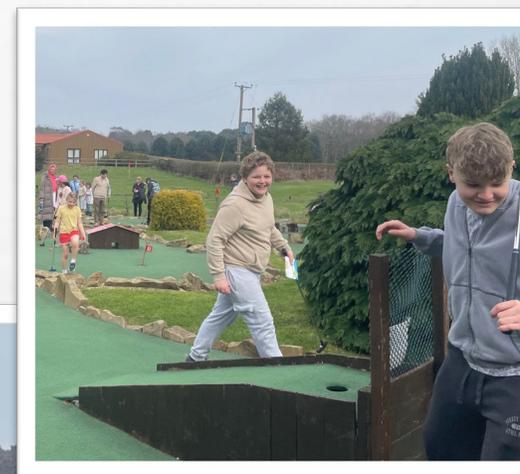
The Cook's Place for ages 6+, for more photos [click here!](#)



**BSL VIDEO**

# Spring term activities

## March activities at York Golf Range and Lollipop Lane



# Summer term activities coming up!

We're looking forward to seeing our members at this fantastic line-up of activities...

## April

- 0 - 5's | Wild Things  
Forest School  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>
- 6 - 12's | Sublime  
Science  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>
- 13+ | Axe Throwing  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>

## May

- 0 - 5's | Soft Play  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>
- 6+ | Snozone sledging party  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>



## June

- 0 - 10's | Bear Ear  
Clinic |  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>
- 11+ | Cryptic Chase  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>



## July

- 0 - 10's | Playdale Farm  
Date TBC
- 11+ | SUP and raft  
building  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>



We will also be visiting Newby Hall in the Summer holidays in partnership with the North Yorkshire Teachers of the Deaf! See also the [Upcoming Activities](#) page of our website.

**BSL VIDEO**

# Recent feedback

Being able to spend time with other children who wear hearing aids is a big deal to C. He says it's the only time he doesn't feel different among peers.

My daughter enjoys meeting other children with hearing impairment & the activities Lollipop provide give the opportunity to meet others. It's really important to get to see/speak to other children like her.

S likes to see other children of his own age that can do BSL and feels self belonging, He enjoys chatting and feels at ease. He also loves activities that are challenging and learning new skills, sharing and working together as a team! he finds that fun.

A is very shy and struggles to talk to other people but coming to Lollipop and seeing everyone else signing to each other, it makes him so happy and he interacts independently more at Lollipop groups than he does ever!

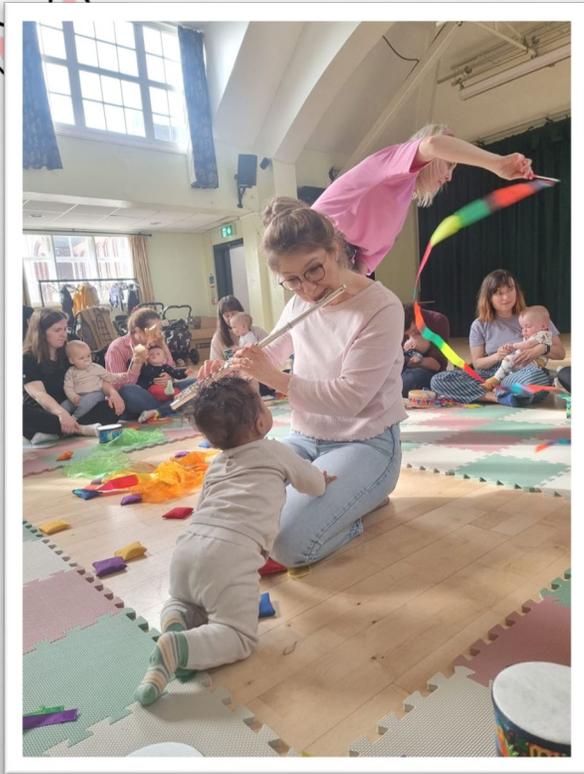
[www.freepik.com](http://www.freepik.com) Designed by Freepik

**Thank you so much to parents for sharing these comments and insights**

**BSL VIDEO**

# New partnership with Language and Lullabies

**Our exciting new partnership with York's unique baby and toddler group!**



Language and Lullabies was born from a deep-rooted motivation to create a high quality, accessible baby and toddler music class through a mix of British Sign Language and spoken English. It's a special combination of live music and British Sign Language that's open for everyone to attend!

The groups run weekly in York, and from the Summer Term Lollipop will be funding places for Lollipop members who attend the classes. Our aim is to assist existing Lollipop families to access this fantastic group, and to introduce existing Language and Lullabies attendees to the Lollipop community

**Click the icons to visit the L&L website  
or Facebook page**

**Language & Lullabies**



**BSL VIDEO**

# New NDCS Community Connectors



**We're incredibly excited to share the news that two of our Lollipop parents, Naomi Scott-Johnston and Stacey Corr have brand new roles as National Deaf Children's Society Community Connectors!**

Naomi and Stacey's role is to connect families with the support and resources that they need in York and the surrounding areas. They have connections with audiology, Teachers of the Deaf and hearing support teams, educational psychology and social work teams, and of course, Lollipop! Their connection to Lollipop will help further strengthen our relationship as an NDCS affiliated association, especially as Stacey is also a member of the Lollipop Board of Trustees.

They can offer one-to-one support in your home, at hospital/clinic appointments and offer signposting to funding, other parts of the NDCS, and organisations that many parents new to the deaf community may not yet know about. These roles are a fantastic way to create community around deaf children and their parents, ensuring early support for families and allowing the wealth of experience of parents to be shared.



Stacey Corr



Naomi Scott-Johnston

[Click here to find out more](#)

[BSL VIDEO](#)

# George Pig gets his first hearing aid



## The storyline was developed with the National Deaf Children's Society

This brilliant new storyline will bring visibility of hearing aids to pre-school children, normalising their use and increasing awareness of how deafness is different for every deaf person.



“When the Pig family learn that George has moderate hearing loss in one ear, lots of small things start to make sense – like why it’s taking George a bit longer to learn to speak and why he seems to daydream (and get distracted) in noisy places.

The audiologist gives George a hearing aid, which helps him to enjoy lots of Peppa’s favourite sounds. But even with his hearing aid, George doesn’t hear everything! Peppa and her family are learning about different ways they can support George. They know that, with the right support, anything is possible for deaf children.” Read more and find lots of resources on the NDCS website [here!](#)

The new episode aired on March 9, on Channel 5's Milkshake!  
Season 9, Episode 14: ‘Hearing Test’

**BSL VIDEO**

# Fun and games for the Easter holidays!

Wishing our members and supporters a fantastic Easter break!

Have a go at these Easter-themed games during the holidays (when you're not eating chocolate!) 😊

Clicking on the wordsearch will take you to even more games! The answers can all be found [here](#).

Happy puzzling!

### EASTER SUDOKU

		?		?		?
	?	?				?
	?		?			

?				?		
	?	?				
?						


### Easter Wordsearch

BASKET  
 BONNET  
 BUNNY  
 BUTTERFLY  
 CARROT  
 CHICK

CHOCOLATE  
 CROSS  
 DAFFODIL  
 DUCK  
 EASTER SUNDAY  
 EGG

EGG HUNT  
 FLOWERS  
 GOOD FRIDAY  
 HOT CROSS BUNS  
 LAMB  
 LILY

PARADE  
 RABBIT  
 SPRING  
 TULIP

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One last puzzle:  
How many pairs of ears can you count in the newsletter? Send your answer to [Becky](#) for a chocolately treat!

Click on the games above to be taken to printable versions

BSL VIDEO