

Summer 2026 Newsletter

Issue 33



LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

Contents



Welcome to the Summer 2026 edition!

- News and updates
- Deaf Services Fair 2026
- Summer term activities: Snozone, soft play, Bear Ear Clinic, Cryptic Chase, Playdale Farm and North Yorkshire Water Park!
- Upcoming activities – Summer holiday activity at Newby Hall and Autumn Term
- Drop-in sessions for parents and older members
- Lived experiences – Cheryl McBride
- Summer Fun and Games

Cover images: Sailing rafts and giant paddleboards

BSL VIDEO

News and updates!

This term we received three generous donations! Firstly, from [Eat, Drink and Shop](#), on the University of York campus who donated £500. A kind benefactor left us £11,898.14 in their will, which we received through the [Charities Aid Foundation \(CAF\)](#) and will be used for activities. Local company [Shouksmiths](#) donated £2,000 and we are so grateful for all the amazing support from local companies and individuals.

In September we will be sending a revised photo consent form for all members, it will be sent to your inbox and can be quickly completed online.

In our first term of our partnership with Language and Lullabies we have funded seven places for Lollipop members! L&L is an accessible baby and toddler music class with a combination of live music and British Sign Language. Our aim is to assist existing Lollipop families to access this fantastic group, and to introduce existing deaf Language and Lullabies attendees to the Lollipop community!


Eat, Shop and Drink



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

Language & Lullabies



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The Deaf Services Fair 2026

The fair took place on Tuesday 5th May at The Folk Hall, New Earswick



Stall holders were City of York Council Deaf and Hearing Support Team and Benefits and Money Team, SEND Central, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, Sign Health, Language and Lullabies, Living for Moments, NDCS Community Connectors, The Hearing Place, We Care (North Yorkshire Police), Deaf Advocacy and Support (DASY), Deaf EXperience, RNID, YorSensory – Wilberforce Trust and York Family Information Service.

Thank you to all who came along to support us!

BSL VIDEO

Summer term activities

Our May activities were held at Snozone for ages 6+ and soft play for the 0-5's!

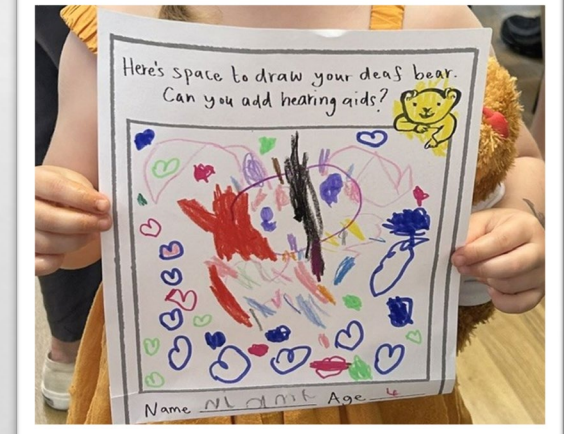
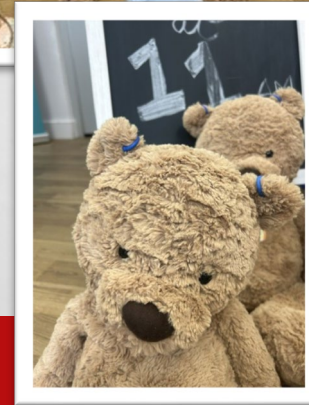


BSL VIDEO

Summer term activities

June activities: The Toy Like Me Bear Ear Clinic came to town! Member aged 11+ had an adventure doing Cryptic Chase at Ripley Castle.

Following the map and solving cryptic clues against the clock!



Summer term activities

July activities were held at Playdale Farm Park for ages 0 – 10, and members aged 11+ built rafts and did paddleboarding at North Yorkshire Water Park.



Activities coming up!

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

August

All ages | Newby Hall
Wednesday 12th

Invitations to be sent
out in late July



September

All ages | DIG York
Saturday 19th

Separate sessions for
ages 0 – 4, 5 – 11 and
12+



October

Bish Bash Pot
Saturday 17th

Separate sessions for
ages 0 – 4, 5 – 11 and
12+



November

Activity and date
TBC!

Anna's working
on it! 😊



December

Christmas Party
Sunday 6th

For all the family!



We will 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

Drop-in sessions for parents

Did you know we run monthly drop-in sessions for Lollipop parents and older members?

Lollipop staff (sometimes joined by NDCS Community Connectors) meet at York District Deaf Society (YDDS) every month, running our session alongside the Deaf Café which is also hosted there.

Whether you are an older member of Lollipop, family of a young member, a carer or a friend, you are welcome to come along to our drop-in. You'll have the chance to chat to others who might have similar experiences to you, ask our staff any questions, or simply relax with a hot drink and enjoy a chat amongst friends. Our Parent Liaison Officer, who is both an English speaker and BSL user, will always be on hand to help.

Updates are posted on our Drop-in events page:

<https://www.lollipopyork.org.uk/charityevent/drop-in-sessions/>



Dates for September 2026 onwards



22nd September
13th October
10th November
8th December

12th January 2027
2nd February
2nd March
13th April
11th May
8th June
6th July

Where: Oloman House, 376A Huntington Road, York, YO31 9HP | **When:** 9.30am - midday

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Lived Experience

When our Parent Liaison Officer, Cheryl McBride, offered to tell us her story of growing up deaf, her experience of school and working life, having a cochlear implant and how she came to work for Lollipop, we jumped at the chance!

Hi, my name is Cheryl, but my friends and family call me 'Cher'. I'm 56 years old I was born in Stockport, near Manchester on a quite remote farm called 'Nabwood Cottage'. In those days it was the norm to be born at home!

It was 1973 when I was four and I was diagnosed as profoundly deaf, having been back and forward to doctors and hospitals about why I couldn't speak. Our family GP simply quoted 'she's just

a bit lazy and will eventually talk when she's ready'. My parents were not taken seriously when they knew something was medically wrong. It was only confirmed when my uncle, my mum's brother intervened and took me to a private doctor who was a professor at University of Manchester - Dr McCormack - confirmed it after a series of hearing tests! He supported my family and wanted to help. I owe it to Dr McCormack that I was able to lead a normal life and be able to communicate... [Continues here](#)



Read the rest of Cheryl's story on our [blog post](#)

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Fun and games for the Summer holidays

Click on the games to be taken to printable versions and the answers – good luck!

SUMMER



L	I	F	E	G	U	A	R	D	I	L	Z	C	Y	R	U	T	C	Q	N
G	J	E	H	P	J	E	L	L	Y	F	I	S	H	R	Z	I	L	U	E
Z	S	T	A	R	F	I	S	H	N	N	D	W	T	R	E	U	I	O	M
N	C	X	Y	Y	Q	G	X	O	P	L	X	P	P	X	R	S	G	C	J
H	V	D	K	Z	U	J	J	Z	H	T	E	Y	O	N	T	M	H	E	U
C	S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E	N	E	L	O	Y	I	T	C	N
A	U	X	Y	O	H	A	M	M	O	C	K	R	F	O	J	W	H	R	E
E	N	M	V	N	R	U	B	N	U	S	Y	I	P	G	S	S	O	E	W
B	P	Q	V	N	T	A	W	F	I	P	I	F	I	A	V	H	U	A	Q
H	Q	M	G	F	I	R	E	F	L	Y	C	P	L	L	S	P	S	M	H
X	E	I	S	A	Y	G	C	Q	Y	C	R	M	F	N	V	C	E	O	A
L	T	N	S	U	N	S	C	R	E	E	N	A	J	M	C	O	R	A	L
Y	A	N	L	U	A	H	Z	A	A	I	X	C	P	K	A	O	N	X	G
L	O	O	E	E	O	Q	O	L	S	B	P	O	P	S	I	C	L	E	Y
U	B	W	M	Q	S	E	A	S	H	E	L	L	M	D	E	D	D	I	W
J	L	X	O	W	A	T	E	R	M	E	L	O	N	G	O	A	T	Q	A
Q	I	B	N	Z	C	O	O	K	O	U	T	U	K	U	C	U	H	Z	M
I	A	G	A	X	F	I	E	L	C	Y	C	I	B	A	E	M	I	N	Y
F	S	V	D	U	D	R	A	O	B	F	R	U	S	V	A	X	I	N	E
F	K	V	E	O	U	P	O	C	O	C	O	N	U	T	N	C	C	J	G

BEACH
BICYCLE
CAMPFIRE
COCONUT
COOKOUT
CORAL
CRAB
FIREFLY
FLIPFLOP
HAMMOCK

ICE CREAM
JELLYFISH
JULY
JUNE
LAGOON
LEMONADE
LIGHTHOUSE
LIFEGUARD
MINNOW
OCEAN

POPSICLE
SAILBOAT
SANDCASTLE
SEASHELL
STARFISH
SUNBURN
SUNSCREEN
SURFBOARD
SWIMSUIT
WATERMELON



SUPERSTARWORKSHEETS

Sudoku! Fill the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 square contains the numbers 1 to 9

9		8	6	7		5		
1			4	2	5		6	
2	5						7	4
	9	1	3	5				6
			8	4			9	5
5	6	4				2		8
6		5			4			1
4		2	1					3
	1						2	7



Click above for more puzzles to choose from!

BSL VIDEO