

# Lollipop newsletter

May 2020 - Issue 2



**LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)**

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

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**Note:** There are lots of links in this newsletter. If you want to open them in a new window each time, hold down the Control key (or Command key on a Mac) whilst clicking on the link. Otherwise, just click back in your browser to return to the newsletter.

# Update from Heidi

## Service Manager



Heidi Davies – Service Manager

Hello 😊

I hope everyone is well, and staying safe at home.

Did you all get the last newsletter we sent in the post? We hope you enjoyed receiving some Lollipop mail – it has been a while since we posted anything in paper form - but we thought you might enjoy it!

The Lollipop staff are all working extremely hard in their remote 'home offices' and we really want to keep in touch with you, while we are all socially distancing.

Drop us an email: [info@lollipoppyork.org.uk](mailto:info@lollipoppyork.org.uk) or text the Lollipop mobile: **07537 863927**.

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/3e1zroq>



## What our staff have been up to...

- **Becky** has been super busy posting lots of messages and sharing information on the [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages, along with updating the [Lollipop website](#).
- **Deb** has been getting to grips with the virtual platforms such as Zoom and Skype and is working effortlessly with our partners and activity providers to find new ways of working together online.
- **Cheryl** has been glued to her phone screen, making so many BSL videos to keep everyone updated.
- **Abi** has done a fantastic job collating and designing the Lollipop newsletters and keeping the mentors involved with Lollipop's lockdown activities.

Sadly, Activity Leader - **Kieren** has left his role at Lollipop due to pressures with his other job and studies.

We are sad to see him go, and wish him all the very best.

THANK YOU TO THE STAFF FOR ALL THEIR SUPPORT AT THIS CHALLENGING TIME

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

## What our members have been up to...

It was fantastic to have some of you join the online HQ activity that we ran on Saturday 9 May. The scavenger hunt looked like fun and I was pleased to learn about the things you have all been doing during lockdown. Painting, baking and supporting the NHS with beautiful posters like the one shown below.

**Please send in any pictures you would like us to see/share of things you have been doing.**

We are trying our best to keep you up to date, but if you have any questions or worries please get in touch. We are here to help, in any way we can. Stay safe everyone, stay home, and stay in touch.

Take care,

**Heidi and the Lollipop team xx**



Poster by Marina, aged 6

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/3g114kJ>

# Deaf Awareness Week



Amanda Smith – Lollipop Trustee

**It was Deaf Awareness Week earlier this month (4-10 May).**

Did you see the video messages from staff and trustees on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)?

Amanda Smith, Lollipop trustee and Senior Lecturer of BSL at York St John University has also made a video which you can view using the link below.

It contains top tips for communicating with deaf people (make sure you mute the background sound and click 'cc' for captions in the settings!)

[https://youtu.be/b\\_U6tND0jOg](https://youtu.be/b_U6tND0jOg)

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2AJh4qa>

# Coronavirus updates in BSL

## **Are you a BSL user who is struggling to keep up with the latest news and guidance on COVID-19?**

You may have noticed that the daily briefs from Scotland, led by Nicola Sturgeon, always include a BSL interpreter but the ones delivered from Westminster never do!

This is even less helpful now that Scotland and England are following a different set of rules.

The Deaf Health Charity, [SignHealth](#), is committed to making sure coronavirus information is available in British Sign Language.

Their content is updated daily and you can find previous summaries on their [YouTube playlist](#).

Follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) to receive their latest updates.

The logo for The Deaf Health Charity SignHealth. It features the text "THE DEAF HEALTH CHARITY" in pink and "SIGNHEALTH" in purple, stacked vertically on a white background.

**THE DEAF HEALTH  
CHARITY  
SIGNHEALTH**

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2LHXbBX>



# Deaf Identity

Earlier this year the Lollipop staff were fortunate to have a visit from local deaf fashion designer and blogger, Luke Christian, founder of the [Deaf Identity](#) fashion label.

We made plans for Luke to visit our HQs later in the year but sadly that is now on hold.

In the meantime Luke recorded and sent a video message to encourage everyone at Lollipop. If you missed it you can watch it here:

[https://youtu.be/PZFG\\_qPsMbQ](https://youtu.be/PZFG_qPsMbQ)

You can also follow Luke on Facebook by searching [@deafidentity](#)



Luke Christian – Deaf Identity



**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2X7AmNe>



# Building resilience in times of uncertainty

**How are you? Genuine question by the way...how are you doing, feeling, thinking, and being at the moment?**

Lollipop's mission is to help reduce social and emotional isolation among deaf children, young people and their families.

Some of you may be finding it especially difficult with the current lockdown and social distancing measures. How can we help people to thrive in this environment?

This is the topic of our latest blog article, written by Abigail Harvey, our Mentor Supervisor. It covers:

- What is resilience?
- 6 ways to boost your resilience
- Resilience in children and young people
- Top tips for building resilience
- Activities you can do together

Find out more: [www.lollipopyork.org.uk/building-resilience-in-times-of-uncertainty/](http://www.lollipopyork.org.uk/building-resilience-in-times-of-uncertainty/)



**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2AALD11>

# Meet the mentor

Chloe, a former Lollipop member, was recently appointed as the Disabled Students Representative at the University of Hull. She comfortably beat the competition with her [inspiring manifesto](#).

## **‘Remove the invisibility cloak, let’s be visible’**

As a Social Work student she passionately believes that:

*“Everyone deserves the right to be educated, be a part of the community, and not feel invisible or singled out.”*

Here she is [teaching students how to sign](#) the alphabet in BSL (click for sound!) If you’d like to have a go at her challenge, remember to get parental permission before uploading any videos to Facebook.

We’re super proud of her achievement and really pleased that she’s here to help inspire other Lollipop members to think positively, embrace their disability and never let it hold them back.



Chloe – Volunteer Deaf Mentor

Click here for [video](#)  
[transcript](#)

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2Xeu8ev>

# Fundraising news



Thank you to everyone who took part in the **2.6 challenge** or donated!

Lollipop were one of 3,961 UK charities to take part and together we raised over £10 million! It was the biggest collective fundraising effort EVER in the UK and we are proud to be a part of that!

Here are just some of the fun activities that staff and volunteers have done to raise money for Lollipop!

- Penny (Chair) - 26 laps of her garden
- Heidi (Service Manager) - [Lollipop Lockdown Spotify playlist](#)
- Nikhita (Deaf Mentor) - [splits for 2 minutes and 6 seconds](#)
- Deb (Activities Coordinator) - granddaughter Nancy, and Heidi's nieces Milly and Chloe [signed the BSL alphabet](#)
- Becky (Administrator) – daughter Caitlin baked 26 delicious cookies!

**It's so easy to do. Why not have a go yourself!**



**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2Xa6OPk>



# Fundraising news continued...

We have also received a generous and completely unexpected **£1,000** donation from Shouksmiths Ltd, a York building engineering company.

A huge thank you has of course been sent to them!

The generosity and kindness of individual people and businesses who support the work of the charity is truly heart-warming.



**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2XbzSpx>



# Fun and games

**We've got another puzzle for you!**

**Can you find all 6 words hidden in this picture?**

Answers to the hidden words puzzle in our [April edition](#) were:

BOOK, NOVEL, PAGE, READ, STORY, WORDS

**How did you do?**

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/2Xf9jzR>

# Animated objects activity pack



Our lovely friends from the [Animated Objects Theatre Company](#) have kindly sent us copies of their latest activity pack.

There is a word search, some drawing activities, and a paper model of a seascape to make.

If you would like one posting to your address please email Deb: [activities@lollipoppyork.org.uk](mailto:activities@lollipoppyork.org.uk)

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/3e4hPIP>





## How well do you know Lollipop?

Test your knowledge and be in with the chance of winning a **£15 e-voucher** of your choice!

The winner will be randomly selected from all correct entries, so remember to enter your name and email address so we can get in touch if you win!

Competition closes on **28 May** and we will announce the winner on **29 May 2020**.

**TOP TIP!** All of the answers except the last one can be found on the [Lollipop website](https://www.lollipop.org.uk/).

**[CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE QUIZ](#)**

**GOOD LUCK!**

**BSL video:** <https://bit.ly/3blrG5j>