

Lollipop newsletter

April 2021 - Issue 9

**Welcome back and
Happy Easter!**

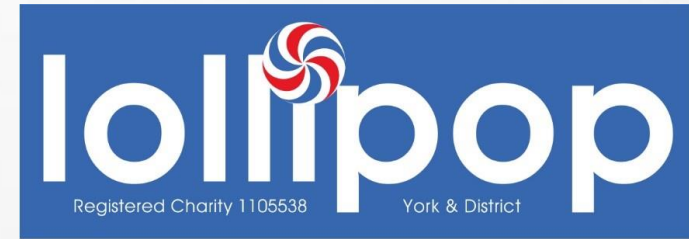


LOLLIPOP (YORK & DISTRICT)

Supporting children, young people and families with deafness

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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: Marina (now aged 7) with the eggs she created for last year's online Easter competition!

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

Update from the Chair...



Penny McDonald - Chair

Dear Members,

Thank you to all of you who attended the Special AGM (SAGM) on 2 March and to those who voted by email.

With your help we reached the minimum number of members needed (5% of the membership) to make any changes to the charity.

Lottery bids have meant that Lollipop can offer activities without worrying too much about funding, but this has also placed restrictions on how we can spend the money.

Comments from a very small majority of members about the work that Lollipop does have been positive, but some feel that we have grown too big and should return to our core values...

Message continued on next page...

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3seU3kM>

The Future of Lollipop

Taking into account decisions made at the SAGM and feedback over the last few years, Trustees have agreed that:

- **Lollipop should continue but in a more focussed way.** We will continue to offer local activities on a smaller scale for children, young people and families. These will focus on developing knowledge, independence, and skills for the future. We will also offer support, give information, and signpost people where appropriate.
- **We will become affiliated with the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS)***
Working informally with the [National Deaf Children's Society](https://www.ndcs.org.uk) we've become aware of the similarities in what we offer. As well as providing their own support and activities, NDCS also offer their expertise to support local groups and can do this in a number of ways. Four of the Trustees with considerable knowledge about deafness and running charities are leaving the Lollipop Board of Trustees at the end of July. Although the remaining Trustees share some of this knowledge, the NDCS would be able to offer support to them when needed. Lollipop will continue as a charity in our own right with our own constitution, Trustee board and funds.
- **The wording in our constitution will be changed** so that the roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer can rotate round the Board if appropriate during the year. The Treasurer and Secretary may choose not to be a Trustee. We hope that this might encourage people to get more involved.
- **Laura Walker (former Lollipop Activities Leader) will join the Trustee Board** (as voted at the SAGM)

* We hope that those of you who are not members of NDCS will consider joining as they provide lots of interesting and useful information for deaf children, young people and families. Check them out at: www.ndcs.org.uk

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/312SKJM>

Keeping in touch

As you read this, we will have completely moved out of the Minster Building on Lowther Street and staff are continuing to work from home. If you need to contact us, please text or call **07537 863927** or email the person you need directly.

HEIDI DAVIES Service Manager		BECKY COPLEY Fundraising & Admin Officer		ABIGAIL HARVEY Mentor Supervisor		CHERYL MCBRIDE Parent Liaison Officer	
servicemanager@lollipoppyork.org.uk		admin@lollipoppyork.org.uk		mentor@lollipoppyork.org.uk		parentsupport@lollipoppyork.org.uk	

When we can safely meet face-to-face, we will rent spaces for small group activities when needed or arrange to meet with you individually at an agreed venue.

Please remember that Lollipop is still here for you, online or on the end of a telephone. We hope to see you on Zoom or in person very soon!

Penny McDonald, Chair on behalf of the Trustees chair@lollipoppyork.org.uk

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/2Qu2lat>

Welcome to our new Trustee

Hi, I'm Laura and I'm delighted to be joining the Lollipop Board of Trustees.



Laura Walker
New Lollipop Trustee

I've been involved with Lollipop for quite a number of years, most recently as an Activities Leader. I have two teenage children. My eldest daughter has cerebral palsy and uses an iPhone as a communication aid. It was due to this difficulty that I learned to sign initially. I now have BSL levels 1 and 2 and have studied to level 3.

I've supported deaf children and children with other disabilities in schools: working in children's centres doing baby signing classes, and as a Communication Support Worker (CSW) for a deaf child in a mainstream school for five years.

I've always enjoyed working with children with a range of special needs. I have 16 years' experience being a trustee for a charity in Ryedale called 'Ryedale Special Families' in which I have helped fundraise and gained some knowledge of being a trustee.

I enjoy being with my family, going on holidays, walking our new puppy and I'm currently studying for a level 3 course in Counselling at York College.

We are still looking for new Trustees as well as a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please contact Penny McDonald at chair@lollipopryork.org.uk to find out more.

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3r85J7C>

Join us for our 'Magical' all-age HQ!

WHAT?

The **Amazing Stephen** is back to tantalise you with his incredible magic tricks! Plus there'll be an opportunity to catch up with your Lollipop friends and let us know what you've been up to – maybe you've learnt a new skill in lockdown, completely changed your look or grown so tall we'd hardly recognise you! We'd love to see and hear how you're all doing!



Save the date for the
next online get together!
All ages welcome!

SAT 17 APRIL

WHEN?

As you know, HQs are usually held on the second Saturday of the month, but we know you'll be busy enjoying yourself over the Easter holidays so for one time only, we're breaking with tradition! Join us for our all age HQ at **10.30 – 11.30am on Saturday 17 April.**

WHERE?

On Zoom – BSL interpreter and captions will be available. You'll receive an email invitation. Just sign up by 12 April and we'll send you the Zoom link the day before the event.

To take part in the magic workshop you will need :

- Sheet of A4 paper
- Paper bank note (e.g. old £20) or same size piece of paper
- 2p coin
- Playing cards
- Cellotape
- Two elastic bands or hair ties

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

The READY Study



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



Ground-breaking new research into the barriers and opportunities that young deaf people face.

You may remember that last summer we told you about a project funded by the [National Deaf Children's Society](#) (NDCS) to follow deaf young people as they become independent adults.

The project called READY (Recording Emerging Adulthood in Deaf Youth) is being run by the University of Manchester in partnership with the University of Edinburgh.

Thanks to people and organisations like Lollipop spreading the word, over 100 deaf young people aged 15–19 have taken part so far, and already so much has been learnt about their health, wellbeing, independence, friendships, identity, communication and more! Find out what the researchers have discovered [here](#) and [here](#).

This research will help provide all of us who work with and for deaf children with the information we need to support them as effectively as possible. If you are interested in taking part, read on...

BSL version of The READY Study findings so far...

https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/thereadystudy/publications/wave1_2020report/

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/394OWfc>

Help shape the future for deaf young people

Are you 15-19 years old? Are you deaf or hearing impaired and living in the UK? You might be able to participate in this study!

The researchers are looking for more deaf young people to sign up for the project. It's really simple to take part, and the more people involved, the more confident they and we can be about the findings from the research.

The deadline to sign up is Wednesday 30 June 2021.

To find out more, visit [The READY Study website](#) where further information is available in English, BSL and SSE.



The READY Study is a longitudinal study of deaf young people aged 16 to 23 designed to improve the support that they get in the future.

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

Sparkle Jelly Tots is back!

A free, friendly toddler group in the comfort of your own home!

- Online sessions for ages 0 – 4 with any degree of deafness, and children of deaf adults.
- Signed stories for the children and a chance to see other parents for a friendly chat!
- Hosted by Lollipop Parent Liaison Officer (Cheryl McBride) in partnership with [Wakefield Deaf Society](#) and Teachers of the Deaf from York and North Yorkshire.



When and where?

On Zoom in the third week of each month. Upcoming dates: 20 April, 18 May and 15 June 2021 at 10.30am.

For more info visit: [Online Toddler Group! | Monthly Zoom Sessions](#)

If you have any queries email Cheryl at parentsupport@lollipoppyork.org.uk BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3vQglpx>

Ready...steady...quiz!



Feeling competitive? Why not go head-to-head with your friends in our monthly virtual quiz!

Join us online every third Friday of the month at 8pm. It's a public event open to all so spread the word and put your general knowledge to the test!

Not only will you have a great time but you'll be supporting Lollipop too. It costs just £3 per quiz to enter (80% of which goes to Lollipop) and there are **CASH PRIZES** for you to win! The more people that take part, the bigger the potential prizes! So what are you waiting for?!

Quiz dates for your diary

16 April | 21 May | 18 June | 16 July |
20 Aug | 17 Sept | 15 Oct 2021.

There's no deadline and you can take part just the once or make it a regular event. Just [register to play](#), pay before the quiz starts, then log in for 8pm on the day.

To find out more visit: [Lollipop's Monthly Virtual Quiz](#)

If you have any queries email Becky at admin@lollipopryork.org.uk

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/3vOTf8p>

Easter fun and games

Can you spot 10 differences between these two scenes of cute little Easter bunnies?

Look carefully as some are easy to miss. We'll reveal the answers in our next newsletter. Good luck!



EASTER BUNNIES 1



EASTER BUNNIES 2

Answers to the hidden words puzzle in our January edition were:
BOOT, CHILL, FROST, ICE, MITTENS, SNOW. **How did you do?**

BSL video: <https://bit.ly/395eTel>