

"For deaf people, with deaf people, by deaf people."

DEAFvibe

Deafness = Equality & Access = Fairness STAFFORDSHIRE

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4th April DEAFvibe HUB

Newcastle Civic Offices 10am-3pm

9th April DEAFvibe AGM

Newcastle Community Fire Station
7pm

12th April DEAFvibe Café

Newcastle Library 11am-3pm
Topic: POWHER – Advocacy Service

18th April NO DEAFvibe HUB

No HUB due to Good Friday Bank Hol

9th May Deaf Day

Britannia Stadium, 10am – 4pm

10th May DEAFvibe Café

Newcastle Library 11am-3pm
Topic: Hart Award

A happy birthday to volunteer **Charlotte Whittaker** who celebrates her **30th birthday** on 17th April.

DEAF DAY 2014

DEAFvibe is on countdown for its annual Deaf Day event which will be on Friday 9th May from 10am to 4pm this year.

There is a hive of activity behind the scenes at DEAFvibe as exhibitors are booked, volunteers are kitted out in DEAFvibe t-shirts and raffles, Stoke City Tours and demonstrations are sorted out by the DEAFvibe team.

DEAFvibe looks forward to welcoming faces old and new to the event which is again at Stoke City FC's Britannia Stadium. While we're always excited about the event, this year promises to be bigger and better, with more floor space allowing more exhibitors and more room for visitors to manoeuvre around the stalls.

Don't miss out on the chance to tour Britannia Stadium with an interpreter, to sample delicious cakes made by DEAFvibe regulars or to browse the craft and therapy stalls set up by DEAFvibe volunteers.

Come along and bring the family. We can't wait to see you.



HART AWARD 2014

To follow on from the Deaf Day on 9th May, the DEAFvibe Café on the 10th May will be a celebration of our volunteers, with one volunteer being presented with the very first Hart Award in recognition of their volunteering for DEAFvibe. Don't miss it, come and celebrate with us!

WELFARE RIGHTS OFFICER TO ATTEND DEAFVIBE HUB

It has been confirmed that Welfare Rights Officer, Anita Thorley of Staffordshire County Council will be visiting the Hub on the 1st Friday of every month from 10am-12 noon and 1pm – 3pm to support deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind people with any benefit queries. She will also offer support with any letters from DWP, Pension Service, ATOS and similar. No appointment needed. The sessions will take place within the DEAFvibe hub at Newcastle Civic Offices.

FAMILY SIGN LANGUAGE COURSE

The National Deaf Children's Society are offering 20 hours of free training in everyday sign language to deaf children and their families to promote better communication within the family. The sessions will be held at Sandyford Community Fire Station, Tunstall, ST6 5NZ. Adult classes are on alternate **Monday's 8pm – 10pm** and Adult and Children sessions are on alternate **Saturdays 10am – 11:30am**. Sessions start at the end of April, dates to be confirmed.

For more information or to book a place contact Erica Jones via ericajones@hotmail.co.uk or on **07783 568042**.

PARLIMENTARY AND HEALTH SERVICE OMBUDSMAN – SIGNED INFORMATION

A subtitled and signed video is available on the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman's website which explains how you can make a complaint if you feel you have been treated unfairly or received poor service from government or public health services such as the NHS. The service has a number of options of how to make your complaint, such as booking an interpreter or accepting a BSL video letter. It is the final stage in the complaints procedure after you have made complaints at a local level.

To view the BSL / subtitled video or to find out more, go to www.ombudsman.org.uk/make-a-complaint

BRITISH DEAF ASSOCIATION'S SIGN LANGUAGE WEEK 2014

Following a successful day at the Houses of Parliament on 17th March with the Deaf Lobby, where 300 deaf people spoke to 60 MPs, the BDA are keen to promote local membership in order to empower more deaf people on a local level. To find out more about becoming a member of the BDA go to their website www.bda.org.uk or email membership@bda.org.uk.

Disclaimer: whilst DEAFvibe endeavors to provide accurate and up to date information at all times, no responsibility nor liability will be accepted for any information which may subsequently prove to be wrong or misleading.