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Issue 61, December 2016

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2nd December DEAFvibe HUB
Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm
Benefits/Welfare – Anita Wall

10th December DEAFvibe Café
Bradwell Lodge 9.30am – 1pm.
Topic: Christmas Party. Update -
NHS Accessible Standards,
Balwinder Kaur and Isabel Reid.

11th Dec Xmas Sign Singing
Sainsburys, Newcastle 10 - 3pm

14th Dec Xmas Sign Singing
M&S Wolstanton 4pm - 8pm

16th December DEAFvibe HUB
Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm.

21st Dec Xmas Sign Singing
Sainsburys, Newcastle 4pm - 8pm

6th January DEAFvibe HUB
Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm
Benefits/Welfare – Anita Wall

14th January DEAFvibe Café
Bradwell Lodge 9.30am – 1pm.
Topic: Deaf4Deaf Counselling.

Craft Group: Tuesday 10am –
3pm **Art Group:** Thursday
6pm-9pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM DEAFVIBE

To all our friends at DEAFVibe who were once strangers and who are now part of the DEAFvibe family, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all of your support in 2016.

2016 has been a challenging year due to all of the funding constraints being imposed on organisations in the statutory, private and voluntary sectors. 2017 will also undoubtedly present the same challenges. DEAFvibe's biggest challenge of the year was the fight against the North Staffs CCG's decision to decommission the provision of NHS digital hearing aids to those who have a mild to moderate hearing loss - this fight will continue in 2017.

The implementation of the NHS England Accessible Information Standard 2016 has been a positive step forward for all deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind people. DEAFvibe has worked hard to educate people about their rights in accessing communication and information in their preferred formats.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Partnership NHS Trust was the first authority in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent to sign up to the Deaf Charter and DEAFvibe worked hard behind the scenes to put Staffordshire on the map.

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DEAFvibe has been operating since February 2010 and we are very lucky to have a fantastic committed team of trustees and volunteers who continue to give up their free time to make a difference to lives of the individuals we come into contact with and to the professionals and organisations that we provide advice and support to regarding deafness and deafblindness.

The board of trustees would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our friends of DEAFvibe and our supporters a very merry Christmas and a wonderful 2017. May it be filled with love, happiness, friendship and support.

A MESSAGE FROM DEAFVIBE CHAIR - JULIE HART

I would like to send a big thank you to all of the friends and supporters of DEAFvibe for the wonderful birthday cards and gifts received. Special thanks to Naomi for taking the time to craft a beautiful card and presents. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a lovely new year.

200 CLUB DRAW

The last draw took place at the November Café. The Winning numbers are as below:

1st Prize - 13

2nd Prize - 76

3rd Prize - 154

A NEW YEAR - A NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

We would like to inform DEAFvibe friends and supporters who may be looking to learn BSL or Lipreading of new classes starting at Deaflinks, Wellesley St, Shelton in January 2017.

Introduction to British Sign Language (for adults aged 19 and over) - an 11 week course ideal for beginners who want to learn the basics of BSL. The start dates are below:

Monday 16th January 6:30pm - 8:30pm.

Tuesday 17th January 10am - 12pm

Lipreading for All - an 11 week course in a relaxed, informal setting. Learn tips and techniques to help you develop your lipreading skills. Gain confidence and understand more about your hearing.

Thursday 19th January 6:30pm - 8:30pm

To book: Enrolment is via the WEA. Tel: 01782 831911 or 01132 453304 or email: stoke@wea.org.uk

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