



## Contact Us

**Tel / Text:** 07923 489000

**Email:** [info@deafvibe.co.uk](mailto:info@deafvibe.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.deafvibe.co.uk](http://www.deafvibe.co.uk)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/DEAFvibe](http://www.facebook.com/DEAFvibe)

**Twitter:** @DEAFvibe

## Issue 63, February 2017

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**3rd February DEAFvibe HUB**

Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm  
Benefits/Welfare – Anita Wall

**11th February DEAFvibe Café**

Bradwell Lodge 9.30am – 1pm.  
**Topic:** Tinnitus Awareness

**17th February DEAFvibe HUB**

Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm  
NDCS – Angie Edwards

**3rd March DEAFvibe HUB**

Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm  
Benefits/Welfare – Anita Wall

**11th March DEAFvibe Café**

Bradwell Lodge 9.30am-1pm.  
**Topic:** Motivational speaker and author of 'You Can Do It', Stuart Harrison. (Books on sale for £10 at DEAFvibe Cafe).

**Weekly Groups at Bradwell:**

**The V.I.B.E:** Wednesday 6 - 8pm

**Art Group:** Thursdays 6pm-9pm  
(starts again 26th January 2017)

### THE VIBE - A NEW GROUP FOR 2017

Following the retirement of Colin Ayres, DEAFvibe had to review the weekly BSL for Leisure sessions. Following consultation with the BSL for Leisure group who were involved in the review process, DEAFvibe is pleased to announce that this group will continue under a new name ... The V.I.B.E.

The V.I.B.E which stands for Visually Inclusive By Everyone is a peer support group for deaf, hard of hearing, deafened people and hearing aid users as well as their family and friends. The purpose of this group is to work together to explore all means of communication using an holistic approach to listening including lipreading, maximising the use of hearing aids, using sign language, body language and facial expressions to ensure Total Communication is embraced and adopted by everyone.

The group is held at Bradwell Lodge Community Centre on Wednesdays from 6pm - 8pm. A small entrance fee of £2 has been fixed to cover the costs of room hire and resources.

So here's hoping you're all ready to feel the V.I.B.E and we look forward to welcoming you.

## **NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE COMBINED HEALTHCARE TRUST SIGNS DEAF CHARTER**

Congratulations to the North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust on their signing of the Deaf Charter on Friday 20th January 2017.

This is a culmination of hard work by DEAFvibe volunteers Andrew Dawson and Paul Burton who acted as service user representatives in raising the importance of accessible mental health services for deaf people in North Staffordshire.

DEAFvibe also extends its sincere thanks you Sue Slater, Bronagh Hopkins and Leance Racey along with their colleagues in the Trust for all of their hard work in driving this forward.

The hard work does not stop now. There is much more to be done, but we are heading in the right direction in improving services for deaf, hard of hearing, deafened and deaf blind people living in North Staffordshire.

## **AWESOME BY APRIL**

Awesome by April has been set up by DEAFvibe volunteer Sami Munden Griffiths as an initiative to encourage all of us to take that first step towards a fitter and healthier 2017.

It takes the form of a private Facebook group called **DEAFvibe Awesome By April** which is where members support each other and share tips on exercise, healthy foods and getting fit. You record your weight and measurements at the beginning and then compare it to what you are in April after a few months of healthy eating and exercise. It is free and all you have to do is join the group on Facebook and be part of a healthy support network while you become more awesome!

## **DEAFVIBE HUB WELFARE AND BENEFITS SUPPORT**

The Department of Work and Pensions have been sending out letters to everyone in North Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent about their benefits changing from DLA to PIP. So many of you have been affected that we now need to set up an appointment system for the HUB on the 1st Friday of every month for the next few months due to the large number of people who need support.

If you need an appointment to see the benefits officer at the HUB you must email: [info@deafvibe.co.uk](mailto:info@deafvibe.co.uk) or text **07923 489000** to book an appointment. If there are no appointments available, we will ensure we do all we can to support you in getting the help you need.

## **200 CLUB DRAW**

Due to the cancellation of the January DEAFvibe Cafe, there will be 2 draws in February. Reminder letters have been sent out for the renewal of your 200 Club numbers for 2017.

**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.