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Issue 62, January 2017

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6th January DEAFvibe HUB

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

14th January DEAFvibe Café

Bradwell Lodge 9.30am – 1pm.
Topic: Deaf4Deaf Counselling.
Stoke City Council - City of Culture bid.

20th January DEAFvibe HUB

Bradwell Lodge 10am-3pm
NDCS – Angie Edwards

3rd February DEAFvibe HUB

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

11th February DEAFvibe Café

Bradwell Lodge 9.30am – 1pm.
Topic: Together for Tinnitus

Weekly Groups:

Craft Group: Tuesdays 10am – 3pm

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

FAREWELL TO A VALUED TRUSTEE

DEAFvibe is sad to announce that long serving trustee Colin Ayres has decided to step down from the DEAFvibe Board of Trustees. Colin has been a valued member of the DEAFvibe team since he joined. Thanks to Colin's tireless working, he has left DEAFvibe with a legacy of projects which he set up to empower people to manage their deafness.

Colin set up the BSL for Leisure group and the Tinnitus support group, both of which are particularly beneficial to those who had recently lost their hearing and did not encounter deaf people in everyday life. Through these groups, people were able to become more comfortable with their deafness, to learn to sign in a relaxed and informal setting and to share with others their experiences of tinnitus and hearing loss in a supportive setting. Colin's group members have expressed their regret as they all enjoyed learning from him.

DEAFvibe would like to say thank you to Colin for everything he has done. We won't say goodbye to him though, he has pledged to remain a friend of DEAFvibe and we look forward to seeing him soon.

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 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.

TINNITUS AWARENESS AT DEAFVIBE CAFE

To coincide with Tinnitus Awareness Week, the February DEAFvibe cafe will be all about Tinnitus. The presentation is titled 'Together for Tinnitus. To find out more, check out the website which is: www.tinnitus.org.uk/TAQ2017

DEAFVIBE'S CHRISTMAS SIGN SINGING

DEAFvibe would like to thank all of the volunteers who attended the 3 Christmas sign singing sessions in December 2016, whether you were signing or collecting. A special thanks goes to Mel for all the time she put into translating the songs into BSL and then teaching us how to sign them.

DEAFvibe are appreciative of the generous donations that Christmas shoppers made at Marks and Spencer and Sainsbury's Newcastle. A total of £2057.79 was raised, our largest amount yet! Such generosity from the public enables DEAFvibe to continue to reach out the the deaf and hard of hearing community in North Staffordshire and ensure that the HUB and Cafe provide safe, accessible and supportive environments for people to gain support and learn new information.

200 CLUB DRAW

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

1st Prize - 110

2nd Prize - 9

3rd Prize - 27

Christmas special draw - 5

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.