

4th Edition

The Deaf Centre
Milton Walk
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DONCASTER
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**grassroots
grants**

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Doncaster and District Deaf Society (DDDS)

(Charity registration number: 504774)

Newsletter May 2010

PAT RAIKES CHAIR PERSON DDDS

A warm welcome to the 4th edition of our newsletter. Again the last 3 months have been very busy for us and we are continuing to work in a variety of areas all of which are aimed at supporting Deaf people from our community. Our Health Awareness Drop-In session held in March was very successful and well attended (see below). We are working on further health sessions (see Health Diary). Again these are in areas which are of concern to deaf people. We welcomed the Reverend Judy Leverton to our centre recently Judy explains her work with the deaf community in more detail later in this edition. Our thanks go to all of those who helped us to work with the Development Workers to the Deaf Community by completely a questionnaire which looked at the feelings of the deaf community around issues relating to their health and well being. Parts of the findings report from that important work at included in this newsletter. Full copies of the report are available at the Deaf Centre or can be posted or emailed out to anyone wanting them. Our newsletter continues to grow is being widely circulated and increasingly popular. We hope that you enjoy this issue. If anyone wants any further information on anything covered in this edition please get in touch with us.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Doncaster Deaf Centre Health Awareness Drop-In



On Saturday the 13th March an open Health Awareness Drop-In session was held at the Doncaster Deaf Centre and 20 deaf people from the Doncaster community attended this event. The aim of this session was to provide supported access to a range of cancer and health related information. Working in partnership with the Development Workers to the Deaf Community Debbie Henry the Cancer Information Development Worker from Doncaster NHS Primary Care Trust was on hand throughout the session to talk with deaf people. This event also formed part of collective work to help both Debbie and the Development Workers to the Deaf Community to identify health areas of concern to deaf people and to develop future health related awareness raising and training events which will target the deaf community and be responsive to their identified needs.

**Future Health Awareness and Well-being
Information Events
Please come along**

NHS
Doncaster

**Are you body aware
Do you know how to look for changes?**

Breast Awareness

**Tuesday 6th July 2010
9.30 am to 12.00 pm
At the Deaf Centre**

Ladies - Would you like to find out more about looking after your body and increasing your awareness of cancer?

If yes please book your place at the Deaf Centre

Facts about:

- **Being body aware?**
- **How to reduce the risks?**
- **Knowing how to look and check for changes?**



Sign Language Interpreter and refreshments
will be available on the day.



Following on from the first very successful Breast Awareness event we held in January of this year we have been asked to run this session again for those women who were unable to attend then.

Please either book your places at the Deaf Centre (see the poster notice board) or by texting Pat, Noeleen, Gillian or Diane.

MEN ONLY HEALTH EVENT

Body Matters

Body Matters

Body Matters



Body Matters

Thursday 15 July 2010

6.00 pm to 8.00 pm

At the Deaf Centre

Calling all Deaf Men...

Do you want to know more about...

your health throughout life?

Facts about:

Prostate awareness?

Testicular awareness?

Prevention?

Recognising Symptoms?

Risk Factors?

Also showing awareness DVDs

A male Sign Language Interpreter will be supporting this event.

Refreshments will also be available

Body Matters

Body Matters

Body Matters

Questionnaire Findings - What did we find out?

Below we reprint just 2 parts of the questionnaire findings report:

A total of 38 questionnaires were completed by members of the Deaf Community.

The results are presented in the same format as the questionnaire with the answer with the most responses highlighted in red. Additional comments made are also listed below:

Questionnaire Results

1. Accessing everyday services



Very hard	Hard	OK	Easy
9	16	13	0

2. Your health and wellbeing



Very bad	Bad	OK	Good
2	4	31	1

Additional Comments

Accessing everyday services

- No Interpreters
- Hard to understand
- Communication difficult
- Access not as good as it should be - access via phone for making appointments
- Some surgeries have staff trained in Deaf Awareness

Health and Wellbeing

- Access to NHS choices
- More health information on internet
- More health information needed in British Sign Language (BSL) on NHS websites
- Lack of Sign Language Interpreters

The results from the questionnaire indicate that the main issues are:

- The absence of a full and comprehensive Sign Language Service
- Confusion around bookings of Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's)
- Inaccessible information
- Limited availability of Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's)
- Difficulty in accessing information as it is not in Plain English
- Not enough targeted social and recreational activities for Deaf people

How to Register with the SMS (TEXT) Emergency Services



RNID is calling for people who are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing or have speech difficulties to register for a UK-wide trial service which allows people to send SMS text messages from their mobile phone to the 999 emergency services.

This initiative allows users to send a text to 999, which will then get converted into a call to the relevant emergency service call centre. This means that caller ID and location information are available to the emergency service in the same way as for voice calls from a mobile.

This service represents a major breakthrough for RNID. The charity has been working with partners to develop this vital service for many years. The service is being supported by the Government, emergency services, Ofcom, the telecommunications sector (British Telecom, Cable and Wireless, Vodafone, Orange, O2, T-Mobile and 3) and RNID.

Access to the 999 service could literally be a matter of life and death, yet until now many people who are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing have found themselves unable to contact the emergency services while on the move. This pilot service therefore represents a major step forward and it is hoped that as many people with hearing loss as possible will register and take part. In doing so they will help to make sure the best possible service is developed.

The service has already handled over 100 real emergency calls and recently the number of registrations topped 4,000 - but RNID still need more people to sign up to help them fully develop the service.

Before you can use the service you need to register your phone, to do this text the word 'register' to 999, then follow the instructions you receive. Alternatively, you can register online at www.emergencysms.org.uk (external link)

Development Workers Deaf Centre Dates for June

The Development workers to the Deaf Community - Gillian or Diane are now regularly at the Deaf Centre 1 day per week providing us with a range of support. If you want or need to call in and see either of them the dates they will be at the Deaf Centre during June are given below.

JUNE 2010

All Tuesdays: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th June

Contact Gillian or Diane via any of the following:

Diane Email: diane.t@sycil.org Mobile: 07794678122	Gillian Email: gillian.w@sycil.org Mobile (which is TEXT only): 0785054 0729
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Who is the Reverend Judy Leverton?



Hello my name is Reverend Judy Leverton, I am 'Chaplain for Deaf People' in the Sheffield diocese and that includes the whole of Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield and parts of Barnsley. I did lives in Doncaster for three years but now live in Treeton, near Rotherham. I am also the vicar of St Helen's church Treeton.

I am able to sign at a basic level but I am working at improving my signing by going to Doncaster College and studying for BSL stage 2.

My job as Chaplain for deaf people involves supporting deaf families with baptisms, weddings and funerals. Most importantly I am here to offer love and support to anyone who needs it, people experiencing difficulties in life, those who are struggling to cope or anyone who just needs someone to listen and maybe pray with them.

In the future I hope to spend one day a week in Doncaster and be available for anyone who would like my support. I would love to hold a church service for deaf people in Doncaster if that is something that people would like.

I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible in the future.

God bless you all
Judy

PS. My contact details are: Fax - 0114 293 9645 Mobile - 07960573529
E-Mail - judy.leverton@yahoo.co.uk

Woodland Environmental Project



Members of the Deaf Community have successfully taken part in a 6 weeks environmental project at the Bentley Community Woodland. Group members are show above felling trees to create a glade for new Forest Experience area

News of a New Group

Deaf Social Group

Mental Health Problem?

Feel depressed, lonely or isolated?

Then come and join us at the MIND centre. You will make new friends, chat and have a cup of tea.



Deaf Social Group has been set up for Deaf, Deafened or Hard of Hearing people with mental distress or /illness.

Faye Routledge, Deaf Support Worker is running and supporting the group. This is an opportunity to get together with other Deaf people, get support and understanding, share experience and make friends.

The group will be meeting from 10am to 12pm every Thursday at Doncaster Mind Resource Centre, 27-29 Netherhall Road. (Very close to Doncaster town centre).

For further information, contact Faye Routledge 07810855987 (SMS only) or email faye.routledge@rdash.nhs.uk