

## How you can help

The generosity of our supporters allows us to continue the work we do primarily in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, and, across the East Midlands. You can support this work in a number of ways:

### Individuals

Make a donation or remember us in your will, become one of our regular givers or take part in one of our fundraising events.

### Companies

Choose us to be your Charity of the Year, offer sponsorship or marketing, employee fundraising ie dress down day or offer volunteers to assist us.

### Events

Organise your own event or take part in one of our events.

### Volunteer

Volunteer at one of our fundraising events



# about US

"I've been using this centre for decades, I have learnt so much from those I have met here, it has shaped my life ... I want to carry this on, supporting and helping other deaf people, encouraging them so they too can be a success ..."

**Deaf Community Centre User**



## For further information please contact:

### Nottinghamshire Deaf Society

22 Forest Road West, Nottingham NG7 4EQ

Telephone: 0115 970 0516 (Voice/Minicom)

SMS: 07817 275253 Fax: 0115 942 3096

Email: [nds@nottsdeaf.org.uk](mailto:nds@nottsdeaf.org.uk)

Web: [www.nottsdeaf.org.uk](http://www.nottsdeaf.org.uk)

## Nottinghamshire Deaf Society

ESTABLISHED 1890

CHARITY NO. 1040801

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## Nottinghamshire Deaf Society (NDS)

is a registered charity that works with Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafened people of all ages across Nottingham, Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands Region focusing on ability rather than disability.

Our objective has always been to respond to the expressed needs and aspirations of deaf people and this has been achieved by the active participation of deaf people, both as members of committees at every level and as members of staff.

We actively promote the social inclusion, and support the overall well being and mental health of deaf people by:

- > Delivering positive activities and services for deaf people and their families.
- > Facilitating the meaningful participation of deaf people and their families.
- > Directly supporting the development and delivery of our community groups.
- > Building the capacity of the deaf community.
- > Promotion and encouragement of volunteering across the community.

We also provide a signposting and referral service to the many statutory and voluntary partnership organisations we work with.

## A Brief History

<b>1868</b>	Nottingham Institute for the Deaf established by Alderman Cropper in his home and conducted Bible Classes for Deaf people in Sign Language
<b>1890</b>	Re-organised and renamed Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Adult Deaf Society
<b>1896</b>	Name changed to Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Adult Deaf and Dumb Society
<b>1931</b>	Moved to current premises on Forest Road West
<b>1935</b>	Scope of Society extended to include Deafened and Hard of Hearing
<b>1948</b>	Became a Charity under National Assistance Act
<b>1970</b>	Bar licence obtained and Social Club formed
<b>1978</b>	Name changed to Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Society for the Deaf
<b>1990</b>	Centenary year and visit by Princess Diana
<b>1995</b>	Society formed its Sign Language Interpreting Unit. Became a Company Limited by Guarantee as well as charitable status. Name changed to Nottinghamshire Deaf Society
<b>2003</b>	British Government recognises British Sign Language (BSL) as a language in its own right
<b>2008</b>	Direct Funding Group formed of Deaf/Hearing Volunteers to raise funds to support running of community centre
<b>2010</b>	Change of constitution to include East Midlands

## Our Work

Established 120 years ago NDS is proud to have played a part in making Nottinghamshire a more open society for the city and county's deaf community. We live and work in a world of new opportunities and challenges for anyone experiencing deafness and hearing loss, and we are as committed as ever to pursuing those opportunities and meeting those challenges.

Our principal activities include:

- > Community Centre providing 400 regular users a place of community in a world that is every bit as complex and still in large parts as inaccessible as it was fifty years ago.
- > A range of services tailored to meet the specific needs of deaf sign language users – enabling them to access information directly in their first language of BSL.
- > Acquired Deafness project to develop and build links with the deaf and hard of hearing community in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and to pilot a range of services to meet the needs of this group of people.
- > BSL interpreting services, enabling over 2,000 Deaf users and hearing service providers to communicate effectively.
- > Registered UK-online centre providing service users with internet access to support their day-to-day lives.
- > British Sign Language (BSL), Deaf awareness and Communication Tactics training for individuals, mainstream services, and teaching of BSL in some schools.

As we continue to meet the needs of a broad range of deaf people, we recognise that the advancements in technology including neo-natal screening and cochlear implants are changing the demographic of the community. These are some of the opportunities that we are seeking to meet head on, working with existing and new beneficiaries, partners and funders.