

Signpost News

Issue 42 | Winter 2025

Wishing you all a
peaceful and happy
Christmas

Best Wishes,
Damien & Denise



wearenugent.org

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I hope that things are well with you all.

I can't believe Christmas will be with us soon, I truly hope that you all enjoy time with your loved ones and we remember those who are no longer with us.

I'm sure everyone that attended enjoyed the October National CDA conference in Leeds. As usual we have tried to make sure there are articles and information that you will find interesting to read, so I do hope you enjoy this Winter edition.

Keep warm, stay safe and have a blessed Christmas

Damien Mahon, Nugent

Light Up A Life

As we approach the festive season, a time filled with warmth, light, and togetherness, we also take time to remember those who are no longer with us. Our annual Light Up a Life service is a special moment to pause, reflect, and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed, including those from our own Nugent community.

A BSL Interpreter has been booked for this so it is accessible to everyone.

When: Friday 19th December, Midday (12 noon)

Where: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

What: Service, Dedication Tree and Refreshments



If you're unable to join us on the day, you can still take part by making a dedication or donation. Your support means the world to us.

Email: fundraising@wearenugent.org

Looking for something to go and see this Christmas?

Empire Theatre Liverpool 'Matilda The Musical'

BSL interpreted Friday 12th December at 7pm - book via their website

St. George's Hall - 'Christmas Carol - A Ghost Story of Christmas'

BSL interpreted Monday 22nd December from 2pm-4:25pm

For BSL friendly seats email info@ginificent.com

Shakespeare North Playhouse, Prescott 'Cinderella'

BSL interpreted Tuesday 23rd December at 1pm

Book tickets via their website

Royal Court Theatre - 'Scouse Christmas Carol'

BSL interpreted Tuesday 6th January at 7pm

For BSL friendly seats email lauren@royalcourtLiverpool.com



CDA Conference Leeds October 2025

I was blessed to have been able to attend the recent CDA Jubilee conference in Leeds on 10th to 12th October 2025. The last time was Brighton in 2016 so it was lovely to be able to see friends and colleagues face to face.

We started the Saturday morning with a presentation by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy, he is based in Stoke-on-Trent. The theme of "Pilgrim of Hope" led to a meaningful and deep discussion – "what is hope? What does the word mean to you?" also what Hope, love and faith mean to us.

We went into groups to further discuss this, related how to witness 'Your Hope in your heart'. The session was very powerful and interesting as we all see the word 'hope' a lot but when you start to discuss it you realise it can mean so many things in different ways to different people.

At Mass in the evening Meriam was signing the second reading for the first time at CDA and also we celebrated Sr Maria McCready who was retiring after 50 years service with the Deaf community, she was presented with a bunch of flowers and gifts from our CDA group. In the evening we had a lovely meal and a chance to 'catch up' with friends old and new.

Sunday morning session, led by Fr Paul Fletcher (SJ) and Peter McDonough, took us through a reflection of Pilgrimage. I really enjoyed the weekend and found interest in all we discussed.

I left feeling 'hopeful' on the way home, already looking forward to the next CDA Conference.

By Damien Mahon



Lots to get involved with coming up in 2026!

msdp
MERSEYSIDE SOCIETY for
DEAF PEOPLE



North West Deaf Sport Council Grand Bingo

£10 pp – Sat. 17th January 2026

Doors Open **10:30am**

Eyes Down **1:30pm**

MSDP Queens Drive Retail Park

West Derby

Liverpool

L13 0DJ

See Andrea and Nicola

Christmas Night Jumper Party 13th December – 6pm

Everyone is welcome!

**Wear your Festive jumper and
come join the fun!**

Walsingham Pilgrimage Sat. 16th May 2026

Over 55 Deaf people from across the
UK came to Walsingham in 2025.

Your are welcome to join our
pilgrimage next year. Pray for peace in
the world, our health, special intentions
and receive special grace from our
Lord Jesus Christ



One day Blackpool Conference 2026

Sat. 14th March 2026

Morning presentation with Fr Paul
Fletcher ST and Peter McDonough

Sheraton Hotel, 54-62 Queen's
Promenade, Blackpool FY2 9RP

Meet friends, 3-course meal, free
afternoon 3pm Mass

10:30am-4:30pm

AGM

Sat. 26th September 2026

The Catholic Deaf Society is pleased to
invite you to the AGM which will be held
in Westminster Cathedral Hall
Ambrosden Avenue, SW1P 1QJ

10:30am-12:30pm

In the afternoon Caritas Deaf Service
will be celebrating their 50th
anniversary with a signed Mass and a
reception.

Contact Shell Roca at
shellroca@rcdow.org.uk or SMS
07779341136



"We Are All Messengers"

I hope you find this Jubilee year as Pilgrims of Hope, one to give us uplifting moments when going through challenges and hard times, I would like to share something special, this was written by a world wide author Lorna Byrne. Lorna shares that sometimes we can be Angel ourselves as a messengers, to not to be afraid to share something good and beautiful. I know we are Deaf so we cannot always talk to strangers that we meet in the street, city or town, but we can always type on our phone if you see anyone who is feeling low or down.. Or send to our Deaf or hearing friends and family, even if they are far away.

I myself, especially on the train to Liverpool and home, when I see or feel someone next to me may be sad, sometimes I find the courage and feel it is right to say something, I use my phone or paper to write a short message, one that I hope will put a smile on their face. When I leave the train it is okay if that person may think I was crazy but they will never forget the kind words and may not show it that they need it.. but deep down it could mean a lot to them and give a new hope.

We sometimes forget that the world can be more lonely than before, because technology often takes over from our face to face gathering times. So I do hope you like this message, maybe we can use it for our 2026 new year resolutions. 'We are all messengers for others, each and everyone of us'

I hope you will enjoy the poem below by Lorna Bryne

Peace & Joy

Denise

One of the Catechists of Liverpool

Lorna Byrne – Prayer for Being a Messenger

**My guardian angel,
Help me to be a messenger for others,
When you, my guardian angel,
Whisper in my ear,
Or the soul of a loved one that you have beside me,
To do something.
I usually don't listen,
But you said, "Do not be afraid."
Thank you, my guardian angel, for helping me.
Amen.**

This is a beautiful prayer asking your guardian angel to help you to be that messenger, to give hope to someone else. Hopefully, one day when you need a message, someone will say something to you that touches your heart, and you will understand what it means. We all need those messages in our lives, because they give us hope. So, ask you guardian angel to help you be a messenger.

Have faith and belief that your guardian angel can help.

Love and blessings to you all, Lorna

Summer Deaflympics – Tokyo 15th November–26th November 2025

International multi-sport events for Deaf athletes held every 4 years, the event is organised by the International Committee of sports for the Deaf (ICSD) the games use visual signals instead of auditory cues, such as flashing lights for the starting signals. It is the world's longest running multi-sport event for Deaf people and it is organised by Deaf people, for Deaf people (overseen by ICSD)

The first Deaflympics were held in Paris, France in 1924, so that makes them the second oldest multi-sport and cultural festival in the world!!

The games were originally known as the “International Silent Games” featuring 148 athletes from 9 European Nations.

This year there were around 2,500 Athletes from 78 nations taking part!

There were 21 sports on the programme, including athletics, football and golf.

Team GB had 65 athletes competing (along with 35 supporting staff) the team competed in Athletics, cycling, football, golf, shooting, swimming and tennis.

GB got
12 medals and
came 13th
overall.
Congratulations
GB!



Make Your Own Christmas Wreath

Lots of styles you can make and it will add that personal touch that store-bought versions simply can't match. Here is one idea for a traditional one, but you can add whatever you like to it. Also have a look for ideas online.

- To start, you will need some florist/garden wire and a wreath frame, you can buy from many shops, online or from florists—you don't have to spend a lot. You can use fresh evergreen and/or holly if you have them in your garden. You can also use plastic ones, these work just as well. Whichever you choose, use the wire to attach the greenery to your wreath frame.
- You can then go 'wild' with flowers or berries or cones (plastic are fine but if you have fresh in your garden then why not use them) Use hot glue or wire to attach your decorations around the wreath in clusters. You can also use Christmas baubles and tinsel if you want to.
- You can buy some lights (ones with timer are best so as not to waste battery, they aren't expensive either) Wind the lights between your decorations and make sure you hide the battery pack as best you can (also put it in plastic bag/clingfilm to protect it from rain etc).
- Add a ribbon bow at the bottom—this one is plain but you could use any bow ribbon you like to match your theme
- If you use fresh greenery make sure to spray with water weekly to keep fresh
- Hang with a wreath hanger or ribbon and there you are!

Everyone will love it and yours will be unique, much better than a shop bought one. So why not have a go and enjoy being creative

Christmas Wordsearch



U
E
T Y L
F O E
I L I
U G S R W
F T B B X
A P C A K
R X M H G N L
H A O R D T I
R Q L I F O R

J A V F E P O H F O Y T A H S H N N T I D I N G S W T S N
E S N E C N I K N A R F T T R R A K S L O R A C W U Q
E W G O O D W I L L I M R B G I E D P E E H S
Z M A N G E R Z Y A A Y Z E O H Y G H T E
Q G L P Q U W C F S M W I S E M E N J
C O D G A V J T E G H O Q Y Q
H O L D N E R B L J O T X
A O R S G E J S D I I
C R W O I E D O V N B
Y Y I N W R L I Y D A
H R U N T E E T R M F K C
M K W N H Y A H C E S U D
N J Y P J N T T R C L L
X L B E O J P O O A W Y
S A H S I G T G E K
B S E Y R P
S Y P O G O
I H J T
N A

WORD LIST

ANGEL
BABY
CANDLE
CAROLS
CHARITY
CHRISTMAS TREE
DONKEY
FAITH

FRANKINCENSE
GABRIEL
GIFT
GLORY
GOLD
GOODWILL
HOPE
INN

JESUS
JOSEPH
JOYFUL
JOY TO THE WORLD
MANGER
MARY
MYRRH
NATIVITY

PEACE
SHEEP
SHEPHERDS
STAR
TIDINGS
WISE MEN

Homemade

Obituary – Joseph Mulligan

We received sad news that we lost a Deaf member from our Liverpool Diocese, Joe (Joseph) Mulligan passed away on 16th October 2025 at the age of 87.



Joe was born in St Helens on 10th May 1938. He attended Boston Spa Deaf school in Yorkshire and he enjoyed being there, he felt it became his second home. After school, he started working as a carpenter, a job he enjoyed.

He attended St Helens Deaf centre and this is where he met his beloved late wife Marie. Joe enjoyed playing darts and playing pool/snooker and chatting with his friends.

Joe also loved to go to Liverpool Deaf centre where he was always winning Bingo! He used to go to over 55's club, he was a member of both the Deaf church in St Helens and MSDP. Joe was so proud to be involved in Eucharistic Ministry and he became a Minister in 1999. Joe regularly attended St Bartholomew's Roman Catholic church where Fr Philip Swanson led the mass, he also attended Mass at St Austin's parish in Thatto Heath.

Joe was a respected member of the Deaf Advisory committee. Joe leaves behind his 2 children and 3 grandchildren; but now he is reunited with his late wife Marie. Joe will be missed by our Deaf community, Rest in Peace.

Next Deaf Mass at Christ the King and Our Lady Church

Sunday 7th December 2025 – 3pm

Sunday 4th January 2026 – 3pm

A Christmas Prayer

Dear Lord, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, I ask for Your peace to fill my heart and the hearts of my loved ones.

This season can be overwhelming with preparations, but let us all remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Help us to let go of anxieties and embrace the joy of Your presence.

I pray for peace in our homes and communities, especially for those who feel isolated or troubled during this time.

May the spirit of Christmas bring hope and healing to those who need it most.

Remind us to be instruments of Your peace, spreading kindness and love to everyone we meet.

Thank You for the gift of Your Son, who is the Prince of Peace.

May His light guide us through these days of celebration and reflection.

Amen



Get in touch!



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together we are
nugent