

Listen!

What's inside?



Pg. 03 | Chief Executive's message



Pg. 05 | We want to keep in touch!



Pg. 07 | Nesta's success story



Dame Evelyn Glennie visits to launch Let's Listen and Talk

The Elizabeth Foundation has completed the first phase of Let's Listen and Talk – its portfolio of cutting edge interactive online learning programmes enabling families to teach their deaf child to speak clearly and confidently.

Contents

Starring on the small screen	02
Collaborative working	03
Staff news and Nursery update	04
Listen! support groups	06
Summer residential programme	06
Graduate's story	07
Founders' Award 2017	08
Deaf Awareness Week	08
Glanvilles' Charity of the Year	09
Fundraising updates	10 – 11
Forthcoming events & challenges	12

To celebrate the completion of the Baby, Toddler and Preschool elements of the Let's Listen and Talk programme, Dame Evelyn Glennie, CH, DBE visited The Elizabeth Foundation's family centre in Hampshire on 18 October 2017.

Dame Evelyn Glennie is the World's Premier Solo Percussionist, and is also profoundly deaf.

Dame Evelyn's visit was hosted by the charity's President, the renowned musical educator, Ann Rachlin, MBE.

"When I was made aware of The Elizabeth Foundation's new 'Let's Listen and Talk' programme I couldn't help thinking about my own journey, and how important it was to have my parents' support throughout. Being able to access valuable information and put it into practice from your own home is a huge achievement and I'm sure it will help families in ways we simply cannot imagine. My parents heard the words, I did not. With their support I learned to feel sound. Now, here I am teaching the world to listen."

Dame Evelyn Glennie



Dame Evelyn Glennie visits to launch Let's Listen and Talk – Continued

The 'Let's Listen and Talk' website (www.letslistenandtalk.org) equips parents with a unique resource for their deaf child.

This new service provides valuable advice, insights and practical tips to help children with hearing loss from birth to five years develop crucial listening and language skills, reinforced by individual professional support in those vital early years.

The Elizabeth Foundation has been developing this new resource over the past few years, with the recently completed Preschool Programme complementing the already-released Baby and Toddler Programmes.

"We all know how easy it is to return home after receiving medical advice, wondering what we have forgotten or misheard. Using this innovative online programme provides an ongoing learning journey where parents can teach their child with confidence in the familiarity of their own home. The Elizabeth Foundation's new programme will ensure no time is lost in showing their deaf child how to communicate through speech."

Ann Rachlin

The Let's Listen and Talk programmes are user-friendly, with inspirational and informative videos. The parent and child activities, based on those successfully taught in The Elizabeth Foundation's classrooms, allow parents to encourage the development of listening and speaking

skills in the comfort of their own home and at their own pace. Throughout their child's listening and speaking journey, the family is supported by the dedicated team of expert staff at The Elizabeth Foundation with phone calls, emails or Skype.

"Already families from across the UK are benefiting from Let's Listen and Talk programmes, giving them the practical and emotional support that will help them put in place the foundations for the development of their deaf child's listening and speaking skills."

Julie Hughes, Chief Executive

Designed with busy parents in mind, the website can be accessed 24/7, wherever and whenever it is required using computers, tablets or smartphones that will track users' progress through the lessons.

"With the Toddler Programme, I'm not feeling lonely or overwhelmed anymore. I'm opening my laptop and I'm feeling support from professionals who understand how it is to be the parent of a deaf child. With every lesson, they provide encouragement and have tips and ideas for how to help me to support my baby" Parent

For more information visit www.letslistenandtalk.org

The Elizabeth Foundation stars on the small screen

Over the weekend of 23 – 24 September 2017 and then in the run-up to their November appeal night, our friends at BBC Children in Need broadcast a short video about our work as an 'ident' between programmes on BBC One, BBC Two and BBC Four – including in the Saturday night primetime slot at the end of Strictly Come Dancing.

The film focused on the work of Charlotte, our Speech and Language Therapist, whose post is currently funded by a grant from BBC Children in Need.

Alongside the short ident, Children in Need also put together a wonderful 3 minute mini documentary about our work – talking to parents and staff.

You can view both videos and read more about how BBC Children in Need supports our work with preschool deaf children by visiting the news page on our website.



Read about our impact

In January 2018, we published our latest Impact Report to celebrate the difference our work makes in helping deaf children learn to listen and talk.

This insightful report covers our school year from August 2016 to July 2017.

You can download the Impact Report from the news page of our website – or if you'd like to receive a printed copy please contact us.

Chief Executive's Message

There is a well-known saying 'Home is where the heart is' – and this plays a key role in everything we do here at The Elizabeth Foundation. We pride ourselves in providing best practice in family-centred early intervention. But what does that actually mean?

An international consensus statement published in 2013 in the Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education listed ten guiding principles for providing best practice in family centred services. I have been keen to use this as a benchmark to ensure we are doing all we can do to support the children, families and professionals who benefit from our service.

Early and equitable access to services is imperative. With early diagnosis, family support needs to be in place at the time of diagnosis, which is one of our priorities here at The Elizabeth Foundation. Once that support begins, a relationship starts to form between the family and the charity – based on mutual trust, open communication, respect and honesty. This helps parents to make informed choices in their decision-making for their child.

Families will not only need support around technology and communication, but they will also need social and emotional support, which may come from our staff or from meeting other parents and families – who can say "I know how you feel!"

Opportunities for learning communication skills happen all-day, every day. Parents need to feel confident that they can provide an optimal "communication environment" at home. Our education team is brilliant at offering parents the support they need to do that. With an open door policy to observing nursery sessions, photos of activities to take home, vocabulary sheets, and story and music suggestions, we support parents so they

can provide a language and listening learning environment all-day, every day.

We also keep up-to-date with changes and improvements in technology and equipment. This could mean hearing technology but it could also mean amplifiers and microphones so that the children can hear themselves talking and singing, or video material so they can watch themselves in an activity and review the language.

We have an amazing team of fundraisers who work to make sure we have every option available for our children. In addition, our digital media manager ensures we have all the equipment we need to capture the many video and photo opportunities.

We continually monitor our children's and families' progress as well as the overall impact of our services. We strive for collaborative working amongst a variety of professionals both inside and outside the charity, as it is so important for families that all the people providing support are working together. This can be very challenging with nearly 90 families attending from nine different counties.

Most people agree that family-centred practices optimise outcomes for children with hearing loss. I feel very confident in saying that our services here at The Elizabeth Foundation continue to provide families with 'best-practice' in family-centred early intervention services.

This is very much a team-approach that includes all staff, trustees and volunteers. Everyone plays a part in creating the 'magical moments' that happen all the time here at the charity. I hope you enjoy reading in this newsletter about the work we do to support deaf children and their families.

Julie Hughes,
Chief Executive

Collaborative working

As a charity that supports children and families from across the UK, collaborative working with other professionals and organisations is absolutely essential.

The stresses and strains of everyday life continue to be a challenge for most parents, and through working together, we can provide more cohesive support to families with deaf children.

Over the past year, we have worked with a number of organisations and professionals to be able to provide a more joined-up service to families.



This collaborative working has included:

- Presenting at the AG Bell International Conference on Early Intervention, which the entire education team also attended (see photo above).
- Presenting via Skype for a training day taking place at The Ear Foundation in Nottingham on Conductive Hearing Loss.
- Presenting a webinar for Phonak on meeting the varying needs of families.
- Presenting to training Teachers of the Deaf about working with very young children with hearing loss.
- Hosting a training day by The Ear Foundation on Imaginative Play.
- Hosting a 4-day training programme by The Ear Foundation on Early Intervention.
- Training updates hosted by Cochlear and Advanced Bionics.
- Hosting visitors' days for professionals, including training teachers of the deaf, training physicians, training nurses, training midwives, training health visitors.
- Attending Speech and Language Therapy Special Interest Group meetings.



Julie leading a Baby session

Staff News



Karen Vaughan

Karen has been the part-time Grants Manager for The Elizabeth Foundation for the past ten years and has done an amazing job of securing funds for the charity whilst only working two days

per week. She is also an integral part of the Senior Management Team. We are thrilled to share with you that from April 2018, Karen has taken up a full-time post with us, taking on additional duties as Deputy Chief Executive. This will be an exciting and demanding role for Karen, but she is more than up for the challenge!



Rhian Gardner

We are delighted to welcome Rhian to our team as she joins us while Charlotte is on maternity leave. Rhian is a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist who comes to us with a wealth of experience supporting

children in the mainstream, in HI settings and in specialist settings for children with hearing loss, autism, Down syndrome and complex needs. She is particularly interested in speech development and has contributed to published research studies on this topic. With a strong background in early years' settings, Rhian's skills and personality are perfectly matched to our charity's ethos.



Ewa Guscott

Ewa has joined us part-time to provide support and encouragement to families enrolled on the Let's Listen and Talk programmes. Ewa has worked as a Teacher of the Deaf for over 30 years. After starting

out in a School for the Deaf teaching English to GCSE level, she taught in a primary unit attached to a mainstream school. She then joined the local advisory team as a Specialist Teacher Adviser across the 0 to 19+ age range. Her most recent role has been working as part of a large, multidisciplinary cochlear implant team.

Nursery update

It is such a joy being down in the nursery with the children and families. Some people might think a nursery for deaf children would be a 'quiet place', but I can assure nothing could be further from the truth...!

Before families start attending our baby nursery we warn them that they have to take part in singing, dancing and music-making. It is an integral part of our sessions! It is so wonderful to see how the babies react to sound through their new hearing aids. Some go very still, some get very excited, some look a bit perplexed ("What was that?") and some smile from ear-to-ear. When they find their voice to coo and begin to babble, well, it is a delight to hear! The parents learn about all the important nuances of learning to listen and learning to communicate – about responding to very slight and very fleeting behaviours that build early communication. Most of all, parents support each other. We have a lot of fun, a lot of laughter, and a few tears – but that is OK!

The friendships and bonds that form in the baby group continue as the children move onto the toddler groups. And again, parents are an integral part of the programme. This age group is more difficult because they have just become confident walkers and they don't want to sit for a second!

The team in the toddler room are brilliant at organising activities that help to build focus and attention for the toddlers, a necessity for developing listening and spoken language skills. Recently the toddlers learned about farm animals (we are experts at obscure animal sounds!) and houses and homes. During their topics of 'verbs', the parents even got a free workout as they all had to demonstrate the different verbs!

In what seems like no time at all, our beautiful, tiny babies are starting in the preschool groups. It is so wonderful to see them confidently walk in on their first day – armed with a schoolbag and lunchbox. The parents don't stay in the nursery for preschool, but are welcome to watch through our observation windows.

The children and teaching staff have so much fun during their day. I recently watched as our hall was transformed into a farm, with straw, hay, wheelbarrows, mud, animals, water – the lot! As the photos show, the children had a wonderful time on their 'farm' – transporting straw, sweeping, raking, playing with animals in the mud, washing their tools (and the animals!) – they sorted problems, worked together and had a great time! Communication, language and listening were at the heart of it all.

The children love coming to their sessions. They run through the door and their excitement is apparent in their faces and voices. There is always something new and exciting planned for the day.

What looks like a really nice, natural play session actually takes a great deal of planning, preparation, observation and skill from the education team and their volunteers. But they also have a great time – experiencing the fun, joy and excitement through the children.

Thank-you to WightLink for supporting our families from the Isle of Wight with half-price ferry travel to nursery sessions.





As you care about our work with deaf children, we want to keep in touch with you...

...but you need to tell us that's OK!

Due to new Data Protection rules taking effect this year, from 25 May 2018 we must have your permission to contact you about our work.

We would love to continue sending you information about how we help deaf children learn to listen and talk – and how you can help us with this work.

Please complete and return the form below to keep receiving news and updates from us by post and/or email.

We will only be able to contact you after 25 May 2018 if you fill in and return the tear-off slip.

You can opt-out at any time and we will respect your wishes.

So please fill in the form or email us!

Title:	<input type="text"/>	First name:	<input type="text"/>	Last name:	<input type="text"/>
Address 1:	<input type="text"/>	Address 2:	<input type="text"/>	Address 3:	<input type="text"/>
Postcode:	<input type="text"/>	Contact no:	<input type="text"/>	Email:	<input type="text"/>

So we can continue to keep in touch, please let us know how you would like to hear from us (tick as many boxes as you like):

- Tick here to receive printed information such as Listen! newsletter and our Impact Report.
- Tick here to receive e-newsletters and other updates by email. If you do not currently receive our emails but would like to, please provide your email address (fill in above).

Signed: Date:

Alternatively you can email your preferences to: fundraising@elizabeth-foundation.org



Listen! support groups

Each month we look forward to running our Listen! support groups for children with unilateral and/or conductive hearing loss and for children with Down syndrome.

The focus of our Listen! groups is on developing good listening skills that support early language development.

Most people know a bit about how language develops – e.g. moving from cooing, to babbling, to first words, to word-combining, to sentences. However, how we learn to listen is a bit more of a mystery – and yet it still has stages of development that we move through as our skills progress.

The purpose of the Listen! groups is to educate parents about how we learn to listen and to demonstrate practical games and activities they can do at home to help their child develop good listening skills, even in challenging listening conditions.

The groups also provide an opportunity for parents to share experiences with other families.

The monthly sessions run for 1½ hours on a Friday. To find out more information call us or visit our website.

Volunteer's story

"Hi, my name is Kate Bowerman.

"I have been a volunteer at The Elizabeth Foundation for over seven years now. I was working as a paediatric intensive care nurse but I found that I had some time to spare. "I wanted to put this time to good use and as I had worked previously with Julie Hughes I asked her if there was a need for volunteers. I came along one day to see what it was all about and have loved every single moment of my time spent at The Elizabeth Foundation so far.

"I mainly help with the preschool children. It is such a joy to see them progress throughout their time at the Foundation from a child who starts with little or no speech, and leaves to go to "big school" chatting away to their fellow classmates.

"I also find that I am a regular fixture at the Summer Fayre and Christmas Bazaar, specifically in the "tea area"! You get to talk to so many people and it is so rewarding seeing everyone busy shopping at the various stalls, chatting to others, and basically enjoying themselves.

"I am now in a position to offer my help at more fundraising events and will assist where I can at a variety of events, including bucket shaking!

"I found myself volunteering to help at the Summer Programme which has been running for a few years now. I will do anything that is asked, from playing with the children through to shopping for pizzas with the sibling group and also then making them!

"I try to spend some time with the parents too as they are always such a big part of The Elizabeth Foundation.

"I love working with the enthusiastic staff and am happy to assist them in the wonderful and inspirational work that they all do. They really make me feel part of the team. I hope to continue my volunteering at the Foundation for many years to come!"

Kate (centre) with the preschool pirates.



Summer Residential Programme

Our third year of the Summer Residential Programme was a great success. We welcomed eight families from across the UK, including two families from Northern Ireland.

The children in the preschool nursery had a wonderful time learning about 'summer fun', 'shapes', 'colours' and 'numbers'. They explored sea animals in a variety of ways and even packed suitcases to go on holiday!

In the sibling programme, they had a great time doing junk modelling (the objets d'art were robots!). Out in the garden, they built a bug hotel (for those who enjoy mini-beasts) and a fairy tree (for all the others!). They also enjoyed making pizzas – planning the ingredients, buying the necessary items and then making, and eating, the pizza. All of this was captured in their journals to take home at the end of the week.

The parents benefited from an intensive education programme provided by a variety of professionals from differing backgrounds.

We are so grateful to Chris Rocca, staff from the University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service, staff from the National Deaf Children's Society, the Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Audiology team and our Foundation team and volunteers for all their contributions that made the 2017 summer programme so effective.



Nesta's success story

Nesta is 4 years old and has a sloping moderate to profound hearing loss with ANSD (Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder). She is currently a hearing aid user, however her path to a better future may include the fitment of Cochlear Implants.



Nesta was diagnosed early and we were assigned a wonderful Teacher of the Deaf whose character I enjoyed and whose opinion I respected. This meant I acted on the information she gave me; most importantly to meet Julie Hughes at The Elizabeth Foundation. First impressions of the Foundation couldn't have been better. I felt at home and Julie was knowledgeable, reassuring and friendly. The Elizabeth Foundation has steered us gently from this point.



Nesta started the baby sessions almost straight away, at 4 months old. The baby classes provided an opportunity to meet other mums and dads in the same position. We had time to share and compare whilst the babies did too! I wanted to know more about audiograms, hearing aids and cochlear implants and the classes offered opportunities to ask others about their experiences.

The structured baby classes energised all of Nesta's senses. Music was a key stimulus in developing her listening and communication skills and I would often hear myself speaking in the same sing-song tones I'd learnt during the sessions. You can't help but smile when your baby sings it back.

With the toddler group came more independence. The older children seemed so advanced but Nesta gradually started to find her own voice. The toddler sessions focused on different topics each term, offering new listening and language opportunities supported with take home sheets to keep practising. Nesta really benefited from the quiet, focused learning sessions, as well as the break-out free-play and music time that we all did together.

As Nesta has moved up into the preschool class, the sessions have helped improve her listening, speaking, literacy and working memory skills. Her focus and attention for learning in a noisy environment have developed – a critical skill in a busy classroom next year! She also receives regular specialist speech and language therapy so that she can recognise and pronounce key speech sounds; even the ones she can't hear so well. Most importantly of all, she is active and having fun while she learns.

The Elizabeth Foundation offers the best opportunities in a specialist environment for children like Nesta. They celebrate birthdays with cake and enjoy the end of the school year with an entertainer. Father Christmas joins the annual Christmas party and every preschooler has a chance to be heard in the Christmas play. So many opportunities to allow Nesta to shine like any other happy child would.



Now, at 4 years old, Nesta runs excitedly into her preschool sessions. She is happy, confident and funny with good vocabulary and speech that she is working hard to improve. She goes swimming, does ballet and loves to paint, colour, role-play and read. She has learned to listen well and to use her technology to best effect. She uses a radio aid and, as she moves on, we have secured an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) to support her through our local mainstream school with a HIU (Hearing Impaired Unit).

Deaf Awareness Week in May 2018 ends on Nesta's birthday, so it seemed appropriate for her two siblings to organise a charity fundraising event in aid of The Elizabeth Foundation. Please find out more by visiting their fundraising page:

www.justgiving.com/Silentfun

Graduate's story

My name is Sam Oliver Barnes, I am 26 years old.

I am profoundly deaf due to meningitis at a couple of days old and I wear a Cochlear Implant. I went to The Elizabeth Foundation from 3 months of age.

After leaving The Elizabeth Foundation, I went to Wallisdean Infant and Junior School, and then moved up to Neville Lovett Community School. After graduating from Neville Lovett, I started at Fareham College doing football coaching for a year. I then got a job in a garage as an apprentice sprayer for a year.

After that, I moved on to being a car mechanic in different garages from classic Jaguar cars, to normal cars, to high specification cars. Now I'm working as a Head Mechanic in a Japanese Performance garage.

In my spare time I help my brother doing DJ-ing at the weekends and I also enjoy spending time on my own cars. I want to get into the drifting scene in the near future! And after all the hard work, I like to go on holiday with my friends and relax.

Sam Barnes



Founders' Award 2017

Shirley Metherell – joint founder of The Elizabeth Foundation, was delighted to present the Tufnell family with the Founders' Award 2017 for their outstanding support and achievements.



Three generations of the Tufnell family attended the presentation, just before the Christmas Nativity in December 2017 – grandparents Wynne and Gina, parents Mike and Katie, and daughter Agatha.



The family's involvement with the charity has spanned some 15 years since Agatha attended our preschool nursery and her family started supporting our work through many fundraising events. Katie has organised magnificent 'Magic Ear' charity balls; Wynne has organised fundraising walks and bridge teas; and Agatha has even persuaded her school to fundraise too! Mike has also served as one of our Trustees and then as Chairman of The Elizabeth Foundation's Board of Trustees.

All of us here at The Elizabeth Foundation agree this is an extremely well deserved Award!



Meet a Trustee

Sarah Hutchinson

Sarah joined as a Trustee in 2014 bringing a wealth of knowledge as a qualified Accountant. Alongside her accountancy and pensions expertise, Sarah also has experience in risk management.

"A colleague asked me to do some work with him and suggested as an accountant I might like to stand as a Trustee for a charity he was involved in.

"I felt I had something to offer with my accountancy and recent employment in the pensions industry in which I had been part of a team supporting the Pension Trustees. I knew what the responsibilities would be and what I could offer.

"Since joining, I have been very impressed at the facility that is provided for deaf babies and toddlers. I am conscious of the need to maintain the income stream and have tried to do some little bits to help."

Sarah also sells our charity Christmas cards in her church, and gives her time at fundraising events, such as the Summer Fayre, Lord Mayor's coffee mornings, and February's Quiz Night where her team came fourth.



Help us celebrate Deaf Awareness Week – 14 – 20 May 2018

Did you know that:

- 1 in every 1,000 babies born in the UK will have a hearing loss?
- 9 out of 10 deaf children have parents with normal hearing?

Having a hearing loss can significantly affect a child's ability to communicate. However, with modern technology and appropriate intervention during their early years, most deaf children can – and do – learn to communicate clearly and effectively using spoken language.

The Elizabeth Foundation is the UK's largest provider of preschool education services for deaf children. Every year it becomes harder to raise the funds needed to continue providing our education programmes.

We are currently supporting more families than ever before at our Family Centre in Cosham.

This year, during Deaf Awareness Week, could you help us by making a donation?

- £7 gathered could fund a language-learning snack-time session for a class of children.

- £31 helps us teach parents how to begin nurturing their baby's listening skills.
- £68 helps fund a preschool class developing attention, listening and talking skills.

To make a donation online or to set up a regular monthly donation quickly and easily through our new secure online facility, go to www.elizabeth-foundation.org and click on 'donate'.

Or, if you would like to take part in one of our fundraising events or challenges we have plenty to choose from – see back page.

If you'd rather call us, Fiona or Lorna on **023 9232 2162/3** would be happy to help with any fundraising queries.



Community talks!

Our Fundraising Coordinator Lorna Hawkins has been raising awareness of our work by visiting local community groups – including lunch clubs, coffee clubs, fellowship clubs and social clubs.

Do you know any community groups that might like to hear about the work of The Elizabeth Foundation?

Lorna can tailor her presentations to meet your group's needs and can include a presentation and videos if required.

Please contact Lorna on **023 9232 2163** or email lorna.hawkins@elizabeth-foundation.org to arrange a visit.

Leave a legacy to make a difference

Listen! | Summer 2018

The support we receive in the form of gifts left in legacies makes a significant contribution to the services we run for young deaf children and their families. Joan and her late husband Dennis, decided to leave a legacy to The Elizabeth Foundation. This is Joan's story:

"In the 1950s, my husband's sister gave birth to four daughters. Her first child was deaf but was not diagnosed until the second child was born and was found to be profoundly deaf.

"My sister-in-law and her husband were wonderful parents but struggled with little help or advice regarding their children's deafness.

"The profoundly deaf little one went to Exeter School for the Deaf as a weekly boarder, her mother shed many tears as she couldn't explain to her daughter that she was being sent away for her own good and not that she was not wanted.

"What a help The Elizabeth Foundation would have been then, as it is the biggest provider of preschool education services for deaf children in the UK. This is only possible thanks to the founders, Shirley and David Metherell, also parents of a deaf child.

"Back in those days, my sister-in-law witnessed the stigma and biased views of people who did not know the children were deaf and wrongly assumed they were less able.

"Please remember The Elizabeth Foundation and help their work continue, when writing your will.

My sister-in-law's dream was to hear her daughter say 'I love you mum'.

"Today, The Elizabeth Foundation makes this happen."



With grateful thanks

Over the past year we are hugely grateful to have received gifts in wills left by:

Joyce May Barlow, Catarina Carini, Hazel Clack, Peggy Clark, Jacqueline Fraser, Thelma Hiriart, Robert Hughes, Phyllis Vera Philps, Kay White, June Whitear

We would like to offer our heartfelt condolences to their friends and families.

Let's get quizzical!

Our family centre in Cosham, Portsmouth, is the venue for our new and popular series of fun quiz nights, with 12 – 14 teams enjoying being quizzed on a wide range of topics.

Huge thanks to Tristan McPherson, our excellent quizmaster, and question writers Chris and Jamie Heath.

Tables go fast so book your table for the next quiz night on 11 October 2018 now! £30 per team of four, includes food but bring your own drink.

Generous grant-makers

We would like to thank The Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund for awarding us a grant in 2017 of £15,000 per annum for up to 4 years. The grant is supporting the delivery of our core education services.

James Blott from the Leathersellers' Company and his wife attended our Christmas nativity concert in December 2017 and kindly sent us the following feedback: "Thank you for inviting us to the nativity concert, Janie and I would not have missed it for anything! It was inspirational as well as emotional seeing the children and it reflected exceedingly well on the wider 'Elizabeth Foundation family'"

We would also like to thank The GJW Turner Trust for their grant of £10,000 towards Let's Listen and Talk.

Glanvilles' Charity of the Year

Glanvilles LLP – a full services law firm offering legal services to individuals and businesses, with offices in Chichester, Fareham and Havant – have been supporting The Elizabeth Foundation as their charity of the year. And our friends at Glanvilles explain, it has been a fantastic year:

"After seeing first-hand the amazing work that The Elizabeth Foundation does for deaf children it was no contest when our firm chose our new local charity. We have felt a sense of how far the charity has come since they opened and we wanted to be able to offer support to them moving forward so that they could assist more children.

"During the past year we have tried to increase awareness of the charity by including them in our various networking events that we have been involved in.

"In October, a group of our colleagues put on their running shoes to take part in the Great South Run and Glanvilles LLP were proud to raise a total of £565 for the charity. We also hosted our annual charity quiz in November, raising a further £1,200.

"Everyone at Glanvilles LLP has found it rewarding to raise awareness and funds for the children and families. We appreciate that at some point everyone will be touched by the work the Foundation does."





Our first Facebook fundraiser

Mel Maw's niece Seren attends The Elizabeth Foundation, so when Mel's Birthday came around she set up the first ever Facebook Fundraising event in aid of The Elizabeth Foundation. Mel and her friends raised a fabulous £436 from donations in lieu of Birthday presents.

After visiting with her brother and his daughter, Mel commented, "Such a fantastic organisation made up of wonderful people who truly love what they do. Thank you for helping my family!"

Fundraising is a clearly family affair – at Christmas Mel's family made a donation instead of sending cards, and Mel's mum Lynda and sister Helen also made up a team for our recent Quiz nights too!

Pictured above is Mel Maw with her brother, Steve and his daughter Seren.

Become a Facebook Fundraiser!

If you are a Facebook user why not have a look at setting up a Facebook Fundraising event to support our work – it is quick and easy to do and you can then share with all of your family and friends online.

To set up a Facebook Fundraising page:

1. Go to our page www.facebook.com/elizabethfoundation
2. Click on 'Fundraisers' in the left hand menu.
3. Then click on the blue "+ Raise Money" button and follow the steps to set up your fundraiser.
4. Once you have set up your fundraiser, share it with all your family and friends on Facebook!

Great South Runners

The Great South Run is a fantastic 10 mile race around our home city of Portsmouth. In 2017, we had an exceptional team of runners raising over £16,000. Participants included current fathers, aunts, uncles and friends, and a team from Glanvilles (see page 9).

A special thank you to Avais Hussain (pictured with Charlotte Emery from The Elizabeth Foundation) who raised an extraordinary amount in memory of his beautiful daughter Ayesha; a past pupil who is very much missed by all her friends here at The Elizabeth Foundation.

Places still available for Great South Run 2018

Whilst we already have many runners signed up for this year, we do have more places available. Let your friends

and family know you aim to raise £250 sponsorship and you get an Elizabeth Foundation running vest, medal and certificate!



The marvellous MacDonalds!

The whole family got involved when Susanna MacDonald opted to take The Elizabeth Foundation's London Marathon 2018 place. Whilst mum Susanna was pounding the streets, dad Robert ran a bake sale at work and children Isla, Fraser and Maisie cheered their mum on with loud voices in a delightful JustGiving page video!

Well done to Susanna and thank you to all the MacDonald family for raising in excess of £3,400!



Maisie and Fraser

Winning swimmers

The 'Beast from the East' snow storm in March 2018 did not stop our intrepid swimmers who raised in excess of £2,600 in the warm blue waters of the Oasis Wellness Centre, just next to our Family Centre in Cosham, Portsmouth.

Past pupil Thomas, now aged 9 (pictured below after his successful swim), joined fellow past pupils Jefferson and Oliver and swimmers from our local community to swim in total more than 15km!



There's no stopping Theo

Our Great South Run Mini competitor 4-year old Theo McBride was thoroughly disappointed when the race in October 2017 was cancelled due to Storm Brian.

Not to be put off from his fundraising efforts, he recreated the event at school to earn the £300 sponsorship his friends and family had kindly donated. Thank you Theo!



'Ain't no mountain high enough...'

...to stop our Chief Executive Julie and her partner Pete, along with dedicated fundraisers Rachel Elgie and Dave Hobbs, taking part in the awesome Snowdon Triple challenge in April 2018. This meant 2.3 mile of kayaking, 10.5 mile cycle and a 9 mile hike up and down Mount Snowdon! These magnificent teams have already generated over £2,600 in funding at the time of going to press.

If you are up for a challenge we can help you find the most suitable one for you – whether it be abseiling, skydiving or sitting in a bath of baked beans!

100 and 200 Club winners

A huge thank you to all the members of our 100 and 200 Clubs – many members have been supporting since the Clubs opened! If you would like to be in for a chance to win cash prizes while supporting The Elizabeth Foundation please contact Lorna Hawkins.

100 Club Winning Numbers

June 2017	92, 72, 65, 91
July 2017	38, 75, 67, 81, 11
August 2017	19, 100, 75, 49
September 2017	86, 95, 42, 70
October 2017	97, 80, 96, 8, 77
November 2017	21, 52, 50, 66
December 2017	38, 59, 67, 96
January 2018	21, 23, 66, 91, 19
February 2018	67, 22, 68, 100
March 2018	49

200 Club Winning Numbers

June 2017	104	£200
July 2017	82	£200
August 2017	46	£200
September 2017	172	£200
October 2017	69	£200
November 2017	15	£2,000
December 2017	164	£200
January 2018	168	£200
February 2018	148	£200
March 2018	41	£200

All the fun of the fayres!

Each year, our Christmas Bazaar and our Summer Fayre raise thousands of pounds and this is down to the help given by our families, friends who donate gifts and volunteer on stalls.

We are delighted that many of our corporate supporters also provide assistance at these events – such as Natalie Oliver and Jacqui Benham from Asda. The Summer Fayre is on 8 July 2018 and we look forward to seeing you there!

Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes

Kris James of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes King George VI Lodge, Tadley, kindly chose The Elizabeth Foundation for him and his brothers to support and we were delighted to collect a cheque for £1017.14 for their efforts.

Zurich Insurance

Over the years, The Elizabeth Foundation has been supported by Zurich Insurance, based just along the motorway at Whiteley. Last year our friends at Zurich helped fund baby and parent sessions. They also chose us to be a beneficiary of their Festival Challenge with their team providing 150 wrapped selection boxes for our Christmas Bazaar – saving us not only money but time too! Seen here is the Zurich team with Fiona Heath, our fundraising manager.



Thanks to Portsmouth Property Association

This year the Portsmouth Property Association (PPA) and chairman Tom Holloway have been supporting The Elizabeth Foundation as their charity of the year.

Events have included a quiz night, a regional update and a fantastic annual dinner featuring guest speaker Steve Davis OBE and photographed by Martin Harris. The dinner was attended by Fundraising Coordinator Lorna Hawkins and our Chief Executive Julie Hughes (below). The annual dinner raised over £5,000 through a raffle and auction with prizes generously donated by local businesses and raised awareness of The Elizabeth Foundation in our local community.



This year the PPA broke the record for the amount raised and presented a cheque for an astounding £11,083.92 at their AGM. We were absolutely thrilled to be a part of the PPA this year and thank all the members for their support. This could fund two terms of preschool classes for 8 deaf children helping them to develop good listening and speaking skills. Thank you to the chairman and the entire committee for their hard work organising these events in aid of The Elizabeth Foundation.

A fairway to fundraise

Thank you to all the teams who had a great day at our Golf Day in June last year at Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club, Hampshire. This parkland/heathland style course – which measures just 5,962 yards from the back tees but with a par of 69 – offered a good test for the mixed abilities of our teams.

We were pleased to welcome two new teams, from HCR and Compass Accountants and are hugely appreciative of Paul Wiltshire who ensured the day ran smoothly. The Golf Day 2017 raised a fabulous £4,900!

Golf Day 2018 – places available!

We still have a few places available for our Golf Day 2018 at Lee-on-the-Solent on 14 June 2018. The day will start with coffee and pastries kindly donated by Heidi's Patisseries, with a nine hole Texas Scramble during the morning. After a lunch of bacon rolls and coffee, golfers will enjoy an afternoon round of 18 hole Stableford with snacks and drinks, followed by a 3 course evening dinner. Teams of four at a very competitive price of £320 (£80 per person).

Contact fundraising@elizabeth-foundation.org for details.



Adventures and challenges

Have you got a memorable birthday coming up or how about retirement? Want to do something to celebrate it?

London to Paris Cycle

Connect two of the world's most chic capital cities as you embark on the challenge of a lifetime!*

China Trek

Join the trek of a lifetime as you discover China's amazing cultural past, visit Beijing and experience the rural beauty of this incredible country.*

Kilimanjaro Trek

Located on the North Eastern tip of Tanzania, Mount Kilimanjaro is one of

the world's highest peaks...and a truly amazing spectacle!*

Visit www.doitforcharity.com/theelizabethfoundation.aspx to see the amazing challenges you can take on. We will help you every step of the way!

*Email or call for a free no obligation pack

Whatever your challenge we can help you achieve it from overseas treks to open water swimming – just call the Fundraising Team on **023 9232 2162** or email fundraising@elizabeth-foundation.org

All Let's Listen and Talk Programmes now available

With the recent launch of the Preschool programme (see cover story), together with the Toddler and Baby programmes, all of the Let's Listen and Talk programmes are now online.

Let's Listen and Talk is an innovative and in-depth resource developed by experts at The Elizabeth Foundation.

This unique service provides information and advice to parents/carers and professionals supporting young deaf children from birth to five years.

The programme offers:

- Online lessons guiding parents step-by-step through the process of developing their child's listening and talking skills.

- Easy-to-use and fun activities for parents and their children to enjoy – with demonstration videos.
- Regular feedback and tailored guidance from our experienced team.
- Information to work through with local professionals.

Find out more at: www.letslistenandtalk.org



How you can help us

We do everything we can to keep charges for our nursery sessions and other services as low as possible. The amount we ask parents to pay is considerably lower than the actual cost of providing our unique learning programmes.

The Elizabeth Foundation is a registered charity and we rely on fundraising and the generosity of our friends, families, local business and the community to support as many deaf children and their families as we can, wherever they live.

Please consider making a one-off or regular donation

- I enclose a donation (cheque made payable to 'The Elizabeth Foundation') of £ _____
- I would like to become a regular giver – please send me details

You can also make secure one-off or regular donations through our website:

www.elizabeth-foundation.org

Gift Aid Declaration

If you are a UK tax payer, by signing this Gift Aid declaration and providing your address we can reclaim an extra 25p from the Government for every £1 you give:

- Gift Aid: Yes, I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer and I want to Gift Aid my donation, and any donations I make in the future, or have made in the past 4 years to The Elizabeth Foundation. If I pay less Income Tax and or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address, or if you no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Forthcoming fundraising events

Spinnaker Tower Abseil

Saturday 2 June 2018 – an iconic Portsmouth landmark with a view over Portsmouth that is second to none!

Golf Day

Lee on the Solent Golf Club

Thursday 14 June 2018.

Summer Fayre

Sunday 8 July 2018 – fun for all the family here at our Family Centre in Cosham.

British 10K Run

Sunday 15 July 2018 – a flat and fast route taking in the iconic sights of London.

Silent art auction and raffle

Sunday 22 July 2018 – at Gallery 21 in Salisbury in aid of The Elizabeth Foundation.

Great South Run

Sunday 21 October 2018 – a popular flat 10 mile route through historic Portsmouth and the seafront of Southsea.



The Elizabeth
Foundation

To donate or support our work please visit our website:
www.elizabeth-foundation.org



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The Elizabeth Foundation – helping deaf children learn to listen and talk.

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