

Another Top Gun for coHearentVision s Interpreting Department

Bilingual Holly Jones is celebrating sign language success after reaching top tier status as a Member of the Register of Sign Language Interpreters (MRSLI) with leading deaf-blind charity, coHearentVision.

Holly s success is the latest example of the charity s commitment to the investment and development of its staff.

Having completed the compulsory part of a postgraduate MA course, which will see Holly graduate from the University of Leeds this December, signals that Holly has now achieved the official standard to become an MRSLI, which is the highest industry status for British sign language interpreters.

Working as a BSL-English Interpreter with coHearentVision, Holly s role takes her out into the community working with sensory-impaired people and assisting with day to day tasks by interpreting at medical appointments, staff meetings, job interviews, training sessions, strategic and management meetings and legal assignments.

Holly, 25, said: It s been hard work and there is some way to go before I obtain my full masters degree, but I m very proud of my achievement so far. I feel privileged to have achieved the registration category MRSLI and I m really enjoying putting my skills to good use and interacting with people to aid their communication.

Our job is about assisting in the communication between Deaf and hearing people to ensure equality and empower Deaf people to facilitate their own lives as anyone else would be able to.

Rob Young, chief executive of coHearentVision, said: This is a great achievement for Holly and is another great example of our investment and commitment of time and support to improve the quality of BSL Interpreter provision to the community that we serve.

We face a lot of difficulties with raising vital funds to ensure that we can continue to provide these important services to the region. With the help of donations from businesses and individuals, we are able to provide essential resources for our customers and train our staff to the highest levels to deliver a first class service.

To donate or find out more about coHearentVision, visit www.cohearentvision.org.uk or call 0113 243 8328.

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Notes to Editor:

coHearentVision provides a dynamic social and learning environment for people with sensory loss, offering practical solutions to encourage a better quality of life, including:

- " Braille and large print service
- " Audio description services
- " A deafblind unit to provide comprehensive support to deafblind people, their carers and families
- " Sign language interpreting service
- " A lively youth development service
- " Counselling and support
- " Symbolic Language Service for those with learning disabilities
- " Social facilities and activities

coHearentVision also delivers a range of accredited courses and qualifications to help people satisfy the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 & 2004, including:

- " Taster Course, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 in British Sign Language
- " Business training in Sensory Awareness, encompassing Blind Awareness, Deaf Awareness, Hard of Hearing Awareness and Deafblind Awareness skills.

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