



SYCANN COMMUNICATION
July 2026

INTRODUCTION	2
SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS:	2
SYCANN MEETING DATES	2
CHAIR COMMENTS	3
NEW MEMBERS	3
RESEARCH	3
INFORMATION & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - REGIONAL	3
Exclusive Accessible Cycling at the National Cycling Centre	3
SHASBAH Summer Party 2026!	4
Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club	5
Neurodiversity Sheffield Drop-in Sessions	7
Hackcccessible 2026	8

INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to the latest South Yorkshire CANN Update.

South Yorkshire Children's Additional Needs Network shares information and helps to increase the reach of your services for children and young people in the region.

Regarding updates and information, if you have material or information that you would like forwarded to the members of the Network, or any updates, please ensure that you email it to Miriam on southyorkshire@cann-network.org, before the end of the month.

Thanks to everyone who shared the information below for our latest update, which contains information and sessions for children and young people with additional needs and their parent carers.

You can find these Communications on the SYCANN Website at:

<https://www.cann-network.org/blog/>

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS:

Website:	www.cann-network.org
Admin:	southyorkshire@cann-network.org
Chairs:	chair.southyorkshire@cann-network.org
Bluesky:	https://bsky.app/profile/sycann.bsky.social
LinkedIn:	https://www.linkedin.com/company/south-yorkshire-cann
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/southyorkshirecann

SYCANN MEETING DATES

Please let us know if you need any support accessing the meetings

Upcoming Meeting:

24th November 2026

10am to 12pm

Irwin Mitchell's offices in Sheffield
Riverside East House, 2 Millsands, Sheffield S3 8DT

CHAIR COMMENTS

Welcome to our July update! As we head into the summer, it's wonderful to see so many fantastic accessible activities and opportunities popping up across South Yorkshire, from family days out to sports taster sessions. We're also really excited to share some great collaborative initiatives this month, including the Hackccssible student project. A huge thank you to everyone who continues to send in updates and share resources with the network—your support is what keeps our community so vibrant and connected. We hope you all enjoy a safe and happy summer, and we look forward to seeing you at our next meeting in November!

Nina Rose and Maxine Beckett
SYCANN Co-Chair's
South Yorkshire CANN
chair.southyorkshire@cann-network.org

NEW MEMBERS

If you know of any groups that may be interested, please get them in touch!

If you are not yet on the CANN website, you can be added by completing this form:

<https://www.cann-network.org/member-registration-form/>

Please only use contact details that are for public use

RESEARCH

No new research this month

INFORMATION & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - REGIONAL

Exclusive Accessible Cycling at the National Cycling Centre

Experience the thrill of cycling in an inclusive, supportive environment at the National Cycling Centre!

Sunday 16 August 2026

- 12:00pm – 5:00pm For young people aged 10–20 years

South Yorkshire CANN
www.cann-network.org
southyorkshire@cann-network.org

Designed for young people with cerebral palsy and/or wheelchair users, this event offers the opportunity to try a range of cycling activities, including track cycling, trikes, handcycles, BMX and social riding.

Have a go at:

- Track Cycling
- Tandem Cycling
- Handcycles
- Trikes
- BMX
- Social Riding

Whether you're completely new to cycling or already ride regularly, expert coaches will be on hand to help you build confidence, learn new skills and experience the joy of cycling.

Sign up here:

https://forms.monday.com/forms/4acf9de64e0e258726b770a9e9c776ab?r=euc1&utm_source=WheelPower+Members&utm_campaign=7d90bbd412-MANCHESTER_CYCLE_VELO_22-07-26&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1a290ab33b-610153778



SHASBAH Summer Party 2026!

South Yorkshire CANN
www.cann-network.org
southyorkshire@cann-network.org

Coming up next week is our SHASBAH Summer Party Saturday 1st August at Worsborough Mill Reservoir in Barnsley. We'd love you to join us. We'll be meeting at the picnic area and play park near Wigfield Farm. If you haven't already, please let us know you're coming by completing our booking form below.



Look out for the SHASBAH flag at the entrance to the car park.

Bring along a picnic, we'll buy the gelato icecream, and let's enjoy a summer's day out together!

As part of the day, there will also be walk/wheel guided tours of the reservoir, accessible table tennis, and park fun!

Open to: All our members, family, friends, supporters and the community.

Event cost: Free.

Food and refreshments: Bring your own picnics. Gelato icecream provided.

If you'd like to join us, please make sure you let us know by filling in the booking form:
<https://forms.gle/poNHibExujzQAGUS7>

The venue is fully wheelchair accessible. If you have any other accessibility needs or for help with transport, please let us know at services@shasbah.co.uk.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

SHASBAH Team

Event details: <https://www.shasbah.co.uk/event/summer-party-2026>

Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club

Ability Tennis and Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club are running 4 taster sessions for adults and children.

These sessions are FREE of charge with all equipment provided.

These sessions are suitable for individuals with a physical disability who play sport standing.



Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club

at Hallamshire Tennis and Squash Club,
Sheffield

Summer 2026 taster sessions:

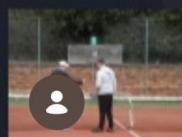
Saturday 27th June 12-2pm

Saturday 4th July 12-2pm

Saturday 22nd August 12-2pm

Saturday 12th September 12-2pm

All free to attend with all
equipment provided. Book on
now:



Email: parastandingyorks@gmail.com
Mob: 07503156428



Neurodiversity Sheffield Family Fun Day

- Are you a parent or carer of a child/young person living with neurodivergence? (no diagnosis needed)
- Would you like some support and advice?

At Neurodiversity Sheffield we offer information, support and advice to parents and carers of children and young people living with neurodivergence.

Come along to our special summer drop-in at Graves Park Animal Farm - children are welcome!

A range of fun activities will be available for children to enjoy while parents/carers receive support, advice and information from **Neurodiversity Sheffield** and our partners. Hot and cold refreshments should be available to purchase from Graves Park café, or you are welcome to bring your own.

Parents and carers are responsible for the care of their children at this event and within the farm.

 neurodiversity.sheffield@family-action.org.uk

 0114 2412733 or 07816 408019

 Graves Park, Hemsworth Road, Sheffield, S8 8LJ

At Graves Park Animal Farm:

**Wednesday 5th August,
11.00am-2.00pm**

**No diagnosis or
booking required!**

For more information about our service,

scan



or visit
family-action.org.uk

Family Action. Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no: 264713.
Registered as a Charity in the Isle of Man no: 1206. Registered Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales no: 01068186.

Hackccessible 2026

Hi,

Hackccessible is the UK's First Student-Led Assistive Technology Make-a-Thon, and has been run by University of Sheffield staff and students for more than 7 years. Our aim is to promote innovation for accessibility and bring together students, charities, and industry partners to co-design real world solutions for individuals with disabilities.

We'd love for you to collaborate with us by either providing a challenger or mentor, sponsoring our events, donating materials or connecting with our students through networking opportunities. Please read below for more details! Alongside our main Hackccessible programme, we are also interested in exploring opportunities to work with schools or organisations. We would like to introduce young people to assistive technology, engineering and inclusive design, and show them how engineering can be used to solve real-world problems and improve people's lives. We are currently exploring the possibility of running school visits or interactive activities and would be interested in speaking with schools or organisations that may be keen to collaborate with us. If this is something your school or organisation may be interested in, please get in touch and we would be happy to discuss what might be possible.

About Hackccessible

Inspired by the At-Hack event at MIT and the BBC program 'Big Life Fix', Hackccessible was founded in 2018 by University of Sheffield staff. What slowly started as a staff-led project soon became a student-led project with 12 teams and more than 100 participants, aiming to create as many solutions for accessibility as possible.

Hackccessible brings together students from a wide range of disciplines to design and develop innovative solutions that improve accessibility. Each year, teams of 6-8 students collaborate with mentors and industry partners to support a 'challenger', an individual from the community looking for a practical solution to a specific accessibility need.

The project runs for several months each year and is divided into two key phases:

1. Design Phase

Teams work closely with their challenger and mentor to conceptualise and develop a tailored solution. Weekly 2 hour workshops are given to teams to aid them through this process.

2. Manufacturing Phase

Over two days in the iForge, which is the UK's first student-led makerspace here at the University of Sheffield, teams build a working prototype, which is then presented during the final showcase. In addition to this, Hackccessible aims to make a global impact. In 2024, Hackccessible India was founded and this competition brought together 40 schools from across India to co-create designs that foster accessibility. More recently, students from the Aga Khan University and Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, ran their own version of Hackccessible, with projects such as a custom phone experience that helps meet various communication needs and assists those with sensory overload.

Past Project Example:

Ruqaya's Challenge

At the time of the challenge, Ruqaya was a blind 5 year old girl who wanted some help learning how to read. Ruqaya's team built the LunarTouch, which helped Ruqaya to learn the alphabet using moon letters.

It works with the moon letters being protruded out of the tiles, and with a radio frequency identification tag (RFID) underneath the tiles. These are then read by the readers inside the block. As the readers detect the RFID and recognise the tile, they produce an audio feedback of the phonetic sound of the letter.

The device worked so well that Ruqaya was able to identify her friends during circle time at school. The team who developed it got the Summer Creator Grant from Emerge, which is an enterprising community here at the University of Sheffield, which allowed them to continue working on the project, as they looked into using braille.

To see more examples of past projects, please see the following booklet: [Hackcessible 2026 - Join Us!](#)

Why Work With Us?

Impact: Your work creates genuine impact. From community initiatives to innovative solutions, you'll contribute to something bigger than yourself — and see the results of your efforts in the real world!

Visibility: As a sponsor, your logo will be prominently displayed on our online content, team apparel, and promotional materials. You'll gain exposure, not only within the university, but also among the wider scientific and engineering community around the world.

Student awareness: Our team members will be going into future graduate jobs, joining companies such as your own or others. By supporting us, you enable these future professionals to learn valuable skills and become advocates for your products or services in their future careers.

Valuable Connections: Engage with challenges, mentors, charities and like-minded organisations through mentoring, workshops, events and the final showcase. These connections can lead to future collaborations, recruitment opportunities and knowledge sharing.

How Can You Help?

Provide Challengers: A 'challenger' is an individual / carer / family member / friend of an individual with an unmet need that relates to a disability that they may have. Our students will address the challenge by designing and creating a customised prototype to meet the unmet needs.

If you are interested in being / providing a challenger, please complete the following google form: <https://forms.gle/UvNZh95seatRjtfJ6>

Provide Mentors: A mentor is an individual who will support and empower teams throughout the project. They will assist by providing feedback, encouraging effective teamwork and help teams stay realistic with their project scope and timeline.

If you are interested in being / providing a mentor, please complete the following google form:

<https://forms.gle/4A23NzDsXQfzbEqs6>

Financial Sponsorship: Your financial support will directly fund our project as a whole, helping us cover essential expenses, as well as funding the individual teams' projects.

If you are interested in providing a financial sponsorship, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

In-Kind Donations: If your company can provide materials, components, or expertise, we would greatly appreciate it. Whether it's hardware, design advice, or software support - every contribution matters!

If you are interested in providing an in-kind donation, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Networking Opportunities: We value partnerships beyond financial support. If you would like to engage with our participants, we can arrange workshops, guest talks, or site visits.

If you are interested in a networking opportunity, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

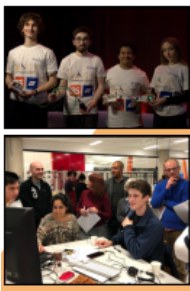
Please let us know if you have any questions and we look forward to hearing from you!

Kind regards,

Dhruti & Latisha

Hackcessible Lead & Secretary

hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk



01 - 03
About Hackcessible

04
Past Projects

05 - 06
Why Work With Us?

07 - 08
How Can You Help?



HACKCESSIBLE 2026

JOIN OUR JOURNEY

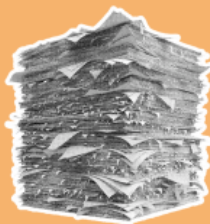


TABLE OF CONTENTS



HOW IT ALL BEGAN

**Our Story. Our Mission.
Our Drive.**

Inspired by the At-Hack event at MIT and the BBC program 'Big Life Fix', Hackcessible was founded in 2018 by University of Sheffield staff. What slowly started as a staff-led project soon became a student-led project with 12 teams and more than 90 participants, aiming to help as many challenges as possible.

Hackcessible brings together students from a wide range of disciplines to design and develop innovative solutions that improve accessibility. Each year, teams of 6-8 students collaborate with mentors and industry partners to support a 'challenger', an individual looking for a practical solution to a specific accessibility need.

01

HOW IT WORKS

**Flexible Work. Quick
Timeline. Fast Solutions.**

The project runs for several months each year and is divided into two key phases:

1. Design Phase

Teams work closely with their challenger and mentor to conceptualise and develop a tailored solution. Weekly 2 hour workshops are given to teams to aid them through this process.

2. Manufacturing Phase

Over two days in the iForge, which is the UK's first student-led makerspace here at the University of Sheffield, teams build a working prototype, which is then presented during the final showcase.

02





GLOBAL IMPACT

**Different Universities.
Different Countries.
Same Goal.**

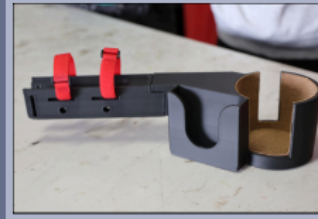
Hackcensible also aims to make a global impact. In 2024, Hackcensible India was founded and this competition brought together 40 schools from across India to co-create designs that foster accessibility.

More recently, students from the Aga Khan University and Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, ran their own version of Hackcensible. Projects included a custom phone experience that helps meet various communication needs for the user and assists those with sensory overload.

03

2025 - DAVID'S CHALLENGE

David found it difficult to carry food, drinks and other items on his electric wheelchair. David's team designed and built a custom-fit, adaptable and easily detachable wheelchair attachment for David to carry personal items.



OUR PAST PROJECTS

Highlights & Impact from Previous Winning Projects

2024 - FRANK'S CHALLENGE

Frank, an avid cook, is completely blind. He found plating food in an aesthetically pleasing way, a challenge. Therefore, Frank's team created 3D printed template moulds lined with braille, customised to the plates Frank has at home, to assist him with this.

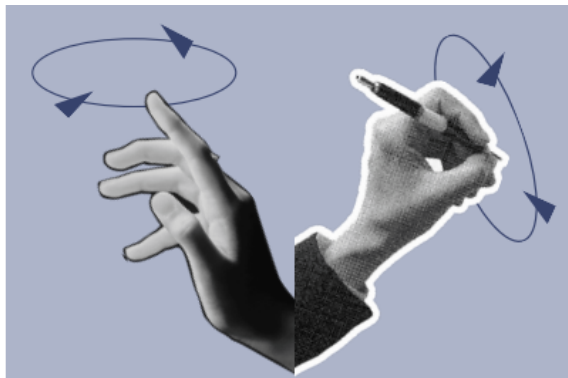


04

WHY WORK WITH US?

Support Our Mission

We are an ambitious, student-led project team tackling real-world challenges and we need partners who believe in the next generation of problem-solvers.



WHY WORK WITH US?

Support Our Mission

It's not just time or a donation — it's a strategic investment in talent, visibility, and impact. Your help can make a difference and would be greatly appreciated.

IMPACT

Your work creates genuine impact, and enables students to develop practical solutions that directly improves lives. From community initiatives to innovative solutions, you'll contribute to something bigger than yourself — and see the results of your efforts in the real world!

VISIBILITY

As a sponsor, your logo will be prominently displayed on our online content, team apparel, and promotional materials. You'll gain exposure, not only within the university, but also among the wider scientific and engineering community around the world.

05

STUDENT AWARENESS

Our team members and participants will be going into future graduate jobs, joining companies such as your own or others. By supporting us, you enable these future professionals to learn valuable skills.

06

VALUABLE CONNECTIONS

Engage with challengers, students, mentors, charities and like-minded organisations through mentoring, workshops, events and the final showcase. These connections can lead to future collaborations, recruitment opportunities and knowledge sharing.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

PROVIDE CHALLENGERS

A 'challenger' is an individual / a carer / family member / friend of an individual with an unmet need that relates to a disability or health condition that they may have. Our students will create and design a customised prototype to meet the unmet needs.



PROVIDE MENTORS

A mentor is an individual who will support and empower teams throughout the project. They will assist by providing feedback, encouraging effective teamwork and help teams stay realistic with their project scope and timeline.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP

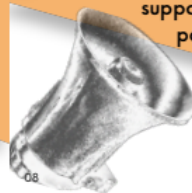
Your financial support will directly fund our project as a whole, helping us cover essential expenses, as well as funding the individual teams' projects.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

If your company can provide materials, components, or expertise, we would greatly appreciate it. Whether it's hardware, design advice, or software support - every contribution matters!

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

We value partnerships beyond financial support. If you would like to engage with our participants, we can arrange workshops, guest talks, or site visits.



07

08

JOIN US. BE PART OF SOMETHING AMAZING.



Ready to co-design, create and support? We would love for you to collaborate with us!

If you have any questions, please get in touch by emailing
hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk