

Somerset Insight



01823 333818

**Somerset
Sight** Working with people
who lack sight, not vision

Registered Charity No: 1154472

Issue 79
May 2024



Cook and Share



**Somerset
Council**



LOTTERY FUNDED

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Somerset Sight
01823 333818

admin@somersetsight.org.uk
www.somersetsight.org.uk

Meeting Rooms and Desks for Hire

Somerset Sight has two Boardrooms, ideal for Team Meetings for 20–30 people

Also desks available for hot desking.

Centrally located and parking nearby.

**For more information please contact Kate on:
01823 333818 or email
admin@somersetsight.org.uk**

CEO Report



Photo of Jackie and Dogs

Thank you, thank you to all who have generously given to our tile appeal. You can see from the front cover that we have started our popular cookery again – cook and share. We will soon extend this throughout the county, bringing cookery to your area. If you would like to be considered, please contact Kate.

Our tile appeal has almost reached £5000 which is very exciting, and we would like to achieve £10,000 if possible. Could you please donate now, to make that difference, and ensure our target is reached? Thank you all in advance.

The visiting service goes from strength to strength as do our socials throughout the county. I would like to thank all the wonderful dedicated volunteers involved in all our activities and services throughout the county. I would like to invite each and every one to come to our volunteers' party on Thursday 4th July to celebrate how much you all do to reduce the loneliness and isolation of sight loss. This is an opportunity to celebrate your achievements, meet Trustees staff and other volunteers and to enjoy a wonderful lunch in the garden here at Northfield House. Please RSVP as soon as possible.

I am very sorry that we will be losing Treasurer Ian Pinder at the end of May after more than 9 years in post. I cannot thank him enough for all he has done over the years and I will much miss his dry humour and approach to life, which is so refreshing.

Jackie Sopwith

Chair of Trustees Report

Ian Pinder wishes to retire as a Trustee and Treasurer at the end of May. Ian has done a tremendous amount of work for Somerset Sight over a number of years and will be very hard to replace. His contribution to the charity has been greatly appreciated and he will be sorely missed.

We are now looking for a new treasurer to follow in his footsteps. Please put yourself or any suitable candidates you may know forward by contacting Jackie Sopwith, CEO, at Northfield House.

Our major fundraiser this year is Dining in the Dark on Friday 9th August, by kind permission of John and Liz Blake. This will be held at their wonderful venue, The Old Bridge, South Petherton, and we hope that as many of you as possible will be there on the night.

Details of how to buy tickets, or leave a donation, are in the magazine, or you can contact the office.

Thank you for your continued support without which we would be unable to provide such a wide range of services to help those with sight loss to remain healthy and independent.

Paul Fellingham
Chair of Trustees



Photo of Paul

SOMERSET SIGHT

DINING IN THE DARK 2024



FRIDAY 9th AUGUST 6.30pm

The Old Bridge
South Petherton
TA13 5JE

www.old-bridge.co.uk

By kind permission of the Blake family

SOMERSET SIGHT

DINING IN THE DARK 2024

FRIDAY AUGUST 9th 6.30pm

The Trustees of Somerset Sight invite you to join us to enjoy an unforgettable dining experience and a journey of the senses.

Welcome drink and canapés on arrival,
followed by dinner and coffee.

£75 Per Person
Black Tie / Lounge Suit

Tickets available online at somersetsight.org.uk, by calling 01823 333818 or by sending a cheque to Somerset Sight Dining in the Dark, Northfield House, 51 Staplegrove Road, Taunton TA1 1DG

If you are unable to attend and wish to make a donation, please use the same details as above.



**Somerset
Sight** Working with people
who lack sight, not vision

Donation Form - Please make a donation to Somerset Sight, over the phone by calling 01823 333818, donate online at somersetsight.org.uk, or use the form below.

Full Name		Tel	
Address			
Postcode		Email	

Single donation:
I enclose a donation cheque of £..... for Somerset Sight

Multiple donations:
Standing Order Mandate:

Bank (e.g. Lloyds)	
Bank address and Postcode	

Please pay Somerset Sight Ltd: Account Number: 57387068 Sort Code: 77-50-01

I would like to make a standing order of £..... with the first payment on the (Date) of (Month) 20..... (Year)

Account Name								
Account Number								
Sort Code								

Signature		Date	
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If you are not already one of our members, we would like to add your name and contact details to our database so we can occasionally send you an update about our charity and how the funds are used to help the lives of our sight impaired members.

In accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018, by signing below you are consenting to Somerset Sight securely storing your data.

Signed.....
Date..... Please turn over
Charity Registration Number 1154472

We do not pass on any of your information to any other organisation without your permission.
If you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please contact us and we will remove your records.

Thank-you!

Gift Aid - Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

Gift Aid can be reclaimed by Somerset Sight from the tax you pay for the current year. Your address and postcode is needed to identify you as a current taxpayer. **You must tick the box below.**

☐ **I want to Gift Aid my donation to Somerset Sight and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years.**

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that 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.

Date

- Please notify us if you want to cancel this donation, change your name or address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.
- If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your gift aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Send this form to:

Fundraising Office, Somerset Sight, Northfield House,
51 Staplegrove Road, Taunton, TA1 1DG

If you are not already one of our members, we would like to add your name and contact details to our database so we can occasionally send you an update about our charity and how the funds are used to help the lives of our sight impaired members to become less isolated, more confident and more active within their communities.

In accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 2018, by signing below you are consenting to Somerset Sight securely storing your data. We do not pass on any of your information to any other organisation without your permission. If you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please contact us and we will remove your records.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Charity Registration Number 1154472



Can You Help Us Please?

2024 – Cookery Teaching Room and Kitchen



As you know, we want to upgrade our kitchen catering and training facilities at Northfield House. This will enable us to offer additional cookery classes and increase our income through room lettings.

The Bradbury Wing was able to be built by your generosity in 2019 and has given so much pleasure to so many of you. Importantly it also generates regular income for the Charity. What a magnificent achievement.

The Bradbury Wing was created with your bricks and key stones; the catering wing will commence with tiles. We need you please, our service users, supporters and volunteers, to purchase tiles.

We have: Large £50, Medium £35, Small £10.

You can buy any combination or number that you would like.

All people who donate will be invited to the Grand Opening and acknowledged on a plaque so please make sure your name is correctly recorded with your donation. Or you can donate anonymously. This can be done by calling the office, paying by card online, or through our donations page and just state it is for the Tile Appeal.

Musical Mondays at Northfield House 2pm Free Entry

On alternate Mondays, Chris Ball, kindly plays the well-known songs of a famous composer or from musicals, such as Oliver, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, Showboat, Gershwin and Gilbert & Sullivan. This is a free event and includes tea/coffee.

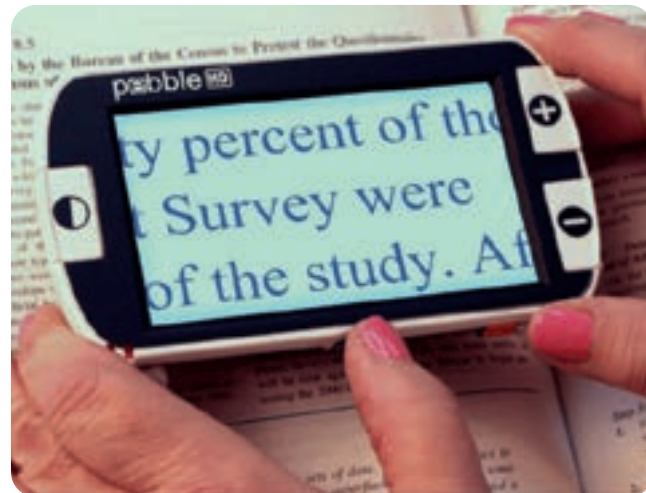
All we ask is for people to enjoy, listen and socialise. All are welcome to attend.



Photo of Chris playing piano

Somerset Sight Technology Open Day

Wednesday 5th June 2024 10am - 2pm



A great opportunity to learn more about what technology is available to assist you on your sight loss journey.

Among the attendees are Optelec, Humanware, Professional Vision Services and others.

No appointment necessary. Just turn up.

We look forward to seeing you then! All welcome.

Sherborne Classic and Supercars Show

Sunday 21st July 2024 10am – 4pm



Once again Sherborne Classic and Supercar Show are supporting Somerset Sight as one of their charities.

Please go along and view the amazing display of cars from old vintage classics to the newer vehicles and watch as they parade in front of the wonderful backdrop of Sherborne Castle.

VisionZone 2024

Solutions for Low Vision



Would you like to find out more about Assistive Technology, Support, Services, Groups and much more!

Our Vision Zone events bring together a variety of excellent services and charities covering your local area.

No matter what your sight loss condition we are here for you. Whether its just to gain knowledge or hands on experience of new technologies, entry is free to our events, and our friendly staff will greet you with a warm welcome.

Thursday 25th July – 10am to 2pm

Bridgwater Baptist Church, St Marys Street, Bridgwater,
Somerset, TA6 3EQ

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease



R N I B
See differently

synapptic

0800 1456115

www.lowvisionshop.co.uk

Miles and Miles



Photo of MAS Mileage at 27.02.2024

MAS 100,000 miles

Donna and the Somerset Sight Mobile Advisory Service have been travelling throughout Somerset for over ten years and they have just completed over 100,000 miles.

Over those years the number of towns visited has increased and the number of people visiting and obtaining advice and support has grown.

Somerset Sight enjoys being able to help people throughout the County and refers to other Somerset Sight services or signpost. The MAS carries the same items as the Resource Centre which includes helpful everyday aids and technology for everyday living. The dates and venues up to September are on the next pages.

Running for Somerset Sight

Zdenek Gregor, who has been a volunteer and Trustee for almost 10 years, has been running and has this year alone raised over £9000 for Somerset Sight. He has completed 67 marathons and 70 half marathons, over his lifetime, with more to follow. An amazing feat!

Zdenek will run the Clarendon Marathon (6th October) (cross country from Salisbury to Winchester) and has also run many New York and London marathons.

Zdenek often guides Liam Harkness, who is blind, and together they have completed the Bath Half Marathon and will be at the Frome Half Marathon on Saturday 18th August.

Thank you so much Zdenek and Liam for raising vital funds to enable us to continue to help visually impaired people.

Please support Liam and Zdenek if you can, by donating via our website Fundraising page.



Photo of Liam and Zdenek

Mobile Advisory Service Dates May 2024 - September 2024

Mendip			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Glastonbury	Thurs 13 th Jun	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 3 rd Jul	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 5 th Aug	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Frome	Thurs 30 th May	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 8 th Jul	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 20 th Aug	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Shepton Mallet	Mon 13 th May	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 22 nd Jul	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Wells	Mon 20 th May	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 10 th Jun	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 15 th Jul	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 12 th Aug	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 9 th Sept	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm

Sedgemoor			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Cheddar	Thurs 23 rd May	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 25 th Jun	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 31 st Jul	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 19 th Aug	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm

PULL
OUT AND
KEEP!

Dates may be subject to change if you are making a special journey, please call our office prior to your visit on 01823 333818.

Mobile Shop and Advisory Service Dates

Sedgemoor			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Bridgwater	Fri 17 th May	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 7 th Jun	Morrisons	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Tue 11 th Jun	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 28 th Jun	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 5 th Jul	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Mon 29 th Jul	Morrisons	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 2 nd Aug	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 16 th Aug	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
Burnham-on-Sea	Fri 6 th Sep	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Wed 22 nd May	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 5 th Jun	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 23 rd Jul	B & M	1.30pm – 3.30pm
	Wed 7 th Aug	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
Cannington	Wed 4 th Sep	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 6 th Jun	By the brook	10.30am – 12.30pm
Highbridge	Thurs 15 th Aug	By the brook	10.30am – 12.30pm
	Thurs 1 st Aug	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Nether Stowey	Thurs 6 th Jun	St Mary's Church Centre	1.30pm – 3.30pm
	Thurs 15 th Aug	Church Centre	1.30pm – 3.30pm
N. Petherton	Fri 31 st May	Car Park	10.30am – 1.30pm

South Somerset			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Chard	Fri 10 th May	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 14 th Jun	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 12 th Jul	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 9 th Aug	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 13 th Sep	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm

May 2024 – September 2024

South Somerset			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Crewkerne	Thurs 18 th Jul	Henhayes Centre	10.30am – 3.30pm
Ilminster	Thurs 9 th May	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 21 st Jun	Tesco	10.30am – 1.30pm
Martock	Fri 24 th May	Car Park	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Tue 9 th Jul	Car Park	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 5 th Sep	Car Park	10.30am – 3.30pm
Langport	Mon 17 th Jun	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 2 nd Sep	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Somerton	Weds 15 th May	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 12 th Jun	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 17 th Jul	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 14 th Aug	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 11 th Sep	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
S. Petherton	Tue 16 th Jul	Hospital	10.30am – 12.30pm
	Thurs 12 th Sep	Hospital	10.30am – 12.30pm
Stoke sub Hamdon	Tue 16 th Jul	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm
	Thurs 12 th Sep	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Wincanton	Thurs 16 th May	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 24 th Jun	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 8 th Aug	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Yeovil	Wed 29 th May	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 26 th Jun	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 30 th Jul	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 21 st Aug	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
Bruton	Mon 3 rd Jun	Budgens	10.30am – 12.30pm
Castle Cary	Mon 3 rd Jun	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm

Mobile Shop and Advisory Service Dates

Taunton Deane			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Wellington	Tue 28 th May	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 25 th Jul	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 22 nd Aug	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Wiveliscombe	Mon 1st Jul	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm

West Somerset			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Minehead	Tue 14 th May	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 27 th Jun	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 10 th Jul	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 13 th Aug	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 10 th Sep	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Dulverton	Mon 1 st Jul	Car Park	10.30am – 12.30pm
Porlock	Thurs 11 th Jul	Car Park (nr the One Stop Shop)	10.30am – 12.30pm
Williton	Thurs 11 th Jul	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Watchet	Tue 21 st May	Coach Park	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 24 th Jul	Coach Park	10.30am – 3.30pm

Devon			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Cullompton	Tue 4 th Jun	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 6 th Aug	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Tiverton	Tue 2 nd Jul	Tesco	10.30am - 3.30pm
	Tue 3 rd Sep	Tesco	10.30am - 3.30pm



The Chairman, Trustees and Staff of
 Somerset Sight invite you to
 The Annual Volunteer and Service Users
 Summer Party



Thursday 4th July ~12.30pm - 3pm

Summer Buffet, Long Service Awards.
 Meet staff and trustees and learn more about
 what Somerset Sight is up to.

Northfield House, 51 Staplegrove road, Taunton, TA1 1DG

Please **RSVP** to admin@somersetsight.org.uk
 or call **01823 333818** by Friday 28th June.

We look forward to seeing you

Volunteers Needed

Cliff and John enjoy their football

On the evening of the 24th October 2023, one of our Somerset volunteers - John - took his Somerset Sight client Cliff to a local league football match between Weston Super Mare and Torquay United.

“Cliff has been a very keen football fan all his life until his illness, so we wrote via email to the club a few days before asking if they could help on the evening - the club got back in touch within hours, offering an amazing support package including parking on site and the use of special seats. They could not have been more friendly and welcoming and are keen to help any other football fans who need additional help to attend games. The game was attended by over 2300 vocal fans, and Cliff thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and atmosphere - with the result going Westons way - a very competitive 3 - 2 Win!”

As can be seen from John’s experience, many volunteers get great satisfaction and enjoyment from their voluntary work, friendships are formed and the

people they support very much look forward to their visits and trips out.

We have a number of visually impaired people in Somerset who would welcome a volunteer visitor, but we do not have enough volunteers to match them with. Full training is provided and we cover all reasonable expenses. We also hold annual get togethers and meetings over the county so volunteers can meet others.

If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who is, please call Somerset Sight **01823 333818** or email; **admin@somersetsight.org.uk**



Cliff and John at football match

Volunteers Wanted

At Somerset Sight, volunteers are an important part of keeping our services going and helping visually impaired people to become more confident, independent and mobile.

The **Volunteer Visiting Service** is a befriending service, whereby volunteers are matched locally with a sight impaired person for regular visits. Our volunteers provide company, friendship and help with day to day tasks and trips out. This helps to alleviate loneliness and isolation and maintain an active and social lifestyle.

As you can see from Cliff and John’s trip out. This is a great way to help people.

As well as volunteer visitors, Somerset Sight would like to hear from people who are willing to assist with the many different **activities and social groups**, such as Acoustic Rifle Shooting.

The Rifle Shooting group has seven people who take part in National League competitions but are always looking for new volunteers and new shooters.

If you are interested and available on a Tuesday or Thursday morning to help support visually impaired people to be able to access a sport, please contact us.

As we now have more and more people sign up to the various activities and social groups, help is needed with getting there and public transport can be scary when you have sight loss.

Volunteer drivers are a valuable source, and we welcome anyone who is happy to collect our members from their homes and take to the activity/group. As a volunteer, you can also stay and take part. We provide training, cover all reasonable expenses, and on trips out, there are discounts/concessions for helpers.

In-house volunteers at Northfield House are always welcome. If you can spare a few hours a week and interested in helping with any of the in-house activities and general admin tasks, we would like to hear from you. It would be much appreciated

If you would like to find out more please contact Somerset Sight on **01823 333818** or email **admin@somersetsight.org.uk**

2024 Activities

Adult Activities



Monday 22nd July 2024, 10:30am
The American Museum in Bath.
Limited Numbers - Time TBC

An exclusive viewing of the new exhibition and museum and gardens; the American Museum in Bath is opening the doors for Somerset Sight service users and helpers to visit privately.

This will involve an audio descriptive tour, hands on with the displays in the exhibition and museum, self-guided walk round the beautiful gardens, shop and deli open for cake/tea&coffee.

The cost of this wonderful experience is £15.

Full address: American Museum & Gardens, Claverton Manor, Bath, BA2 7BD.



Tuesday 30th July
HPC Site Tour - 1.45pm.
Meet at the Cannington Park and Ride for HPC.

Enjoy a private tour of the currently under construction, Hinkley Point C. Somerset's newest Power Plant.

Meet at Cannington Park and Ride at 1.45pm to be driven to the EDF Visitor Centre for an Interactive Experience before the private guided tour of the site.

Location: HPC Cannington Park and Ride, Cannington, Nr Bridgwater TA5 2JA

Places are limited so book your seat soon for just £5 each.

Future Activities – Full details to follow

Carriage Driving on Tuesday 6th August

A boat trip with afternoon tea up the River Exe, July date TBC

Driving Experience at Henstridge Airfield – Date TBC – End August/ September

And others so please watch out or give us a call to register your interest on 01823 333818 or email joanne@somersetsight.org.uk

If you have an email address or a friend/family member who is happy to receive our emails, you can be the first to hear of the activities coming up, so please let us know.

And don't forget about the various activities such as Musical Mondays, Singing Group, Craft group, Tai Chi Qigong and Dave's Diner, all at Northfield House; VI Bowls and Acoustic Rifle Shooting, and the many Social groups: Yeovil, Wells, Frome, Ilminster, Street, Martock and three in Bridgwater.

Contact Somerset Sight 01823 333818 or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk for more information

Children's Activities



Wednesday 29th May
High Ropes at Vivary Park
10am – 3pm Age 5+

£5 per VI child, £10 non VI child, £16 adult – Challenge yourself with the high ropes, low ropes, climbing wall and power fan descender.

Fun for all. See who can be the fastest and climb the highest!

Meet at Location: Vivary Golf and Adventure Centre, Fons George, Vivary Park, Taunton, TA1 3JT



Don't let low vision slow you down

HumanWares' range of Explore portable magnifiers will change the way you read wherever you are.

The new Explore 12 - £1495

The three-in-one portable magnifier with Free Writing Stand and Bag.

Explore 12 is the exciting and easy to use full HD image quality magnifier with a 12 inch touchscreen for improved near and distance viewing.

You will be amazed how easy and intuitive writing becomes when using the Writing Stand.

The versatile Explore 12 will allow you to restart your hobbies, enjoy looking at family photographs and reading once again.



Hark Reader - £1595 - Listen to the printed word

The amazing Hark Reader turns printed text into speech within a couple of seconds. No Wi-Fi needed, no buttons to press, no fuss, just sit back and enjoy reading.

Place your letter, book, magazine, newspaper article, medicine box, food packaging or any printed text on the surface of Hark Reader and within just one or two seconds it will be read aloud.

With its' pre-installed battery and protective carry case, Hark Reader can be used anywhere. Its' sleek, lightweight and compact folding design means it can be easily moved when you have finished reading, just fold the arm down for storage.



If you would like further information on any of our products, call FREEPHONE 0800 587 2589 or visit www.humanware.com

Thank You All

Craft Fair

A big thank you to Kathrine Bryans who raised £270 for Somerset Sight from her stall held at two Christmas Craft Fairs in Cheddar. Thank you for your continued support and we appreciate all you do for us.



Photo of Craft Fair Stall with inflatable snowman

Portcullis Masonic Lodge, Langport

A group of gentlemen from the Portcullis Masonic Lodge in Langport kindly visited us in March and presented a cheque for £1000 towards the Somerset Sight Tile Appeal and Kitchen upgrade.



Photo of gentlemen from the Portcullis Masonic Lodge

Marly Keeps on Running

On Sunday 17th March, service user Marly Brudenell, ran the Bath Half marathon and kindly raised over £100 for Somerset Sight. Congratulations Marly and thank you.

Swim from Dover to Calais

Tommy and Joe have chosen to raise money to help support Somerset Sight as it is something close to both of their hearts.

With their support worker James, they set themselves a swimming challenge! The distance of the English channel from Dover to Calais which is 32 Kilometres (approximately 20 miles). This works out to do around 703 lengths. We are so proud of you boys and thank you so much for this amazing feat!



Photo of Tommy and Joe

Social Groups

NEW – Martock

Martock café meetings have recently been arranged through Somerset Sight for partially sighted people and carers in the Martock area once a month. This started as an idea to have telephone weekly chats, but those who were in the initial sessions thought it better to meet somewhere where we could get to know each other better and discuss things that might be of concern to them, to share ideas and problems.

The first and second café meetings were attended by twelve people, and it was agreed by all to be very successful and helpful for those who might feel isolated.

The group agreed that they could meet more frequently, so the next meeting will be at the George Coffee Shop (opposite the Parish Church) on May 16th at 2.30pm. There is also parking to the side of the building.

For more information, speak to Somerset Sight on 01823 333818 or call Rob Wright 07791172903.

NEW – Burnham-on-Sea

On Tuesday 23rd April, at Fortes café in Burnham-on-Sea, the first Burnham-on-Sea Social Group met. Over 25 people attended. All said they enjoyed it and want to meet again.

Sitting around half a dozen tables, groups sat and chatted and made new friends over tea and coffee. All sorts of topics were discussed and numbers exchanged. People came with their helpers, on their own or with friends.

The next meeting is set for Tuesday 21st May at 10.30am.

Potential New Social Groups

Due to interest shown and the success of Martock and Burnham-on-Sea, we are looking to start social groups in Cheddar, Minehead and Shepton Mallet. If you would like to be involved, please call us.



Photo of Wells Social Group

Spotlight on Social Groups

Wells Social Group meets at Wells Cathedral Café, The Loft, Wells BA5 2UE

Come and join a friendly group of people who meet for coffee and chat and share experiences and learn from each other.

Second Friday of each month
10.15am – 12pm

Next dates – 10th May, 14th June.

New people welcome to come along.

Chard and Ilminster Social Group meets at Café No 57, East Street, Ilminster, TA19 0AW

We try to meet monthly, on the first Wednesday of the month and love it at Café No.57. They look after us so well. Only criteria for joining our Group is to like eating cake! As well as meeting for regular coffee from 10am – 12pm, we might do an Art morning, picnic at someone's house, cook, visit a garden or house.

We are a very friendly close-knit group who look out for each other and love it when new faces want to join us. At the moment there about 8 of us and 3 dogs.

Bridgwater Social Group

Come along for a leisurely afternoon on the second Wednesday of each month at St Francis Church Hall, Saxon Green, Bridgwater TA6 4JA.

From 2.30pm – 4.30pm, a group of people gathers to sit and chat over tea and cake.

Bridgwater Lunch Club

Meets at Victoria Park Community Centre, Victoria Park Dr, Bridgwater TA6 7AS on the second Friday of each month.

From 12pm to 2pm

Enjoy a lovely fish and chips meal with an easy-going group who would love new people to come along.

Bridgwater Social Evening - From 6pm

On the last Friday evening of the month, the Bridgwater social group meets for a meal at a venue to be decided monthly. This is either Admirals Landing or Quantock Gateway, and the more the merrier can turn up.

If you are interested in any of the Social Groups, please do contact the office and we can pass on your details to the relevant organiser, with your permission.

Social Groups

We would love to hear from people looking to join in, volunteer, organise or help us in any way that you can. If you would like to assist at any of the groups, especially Yeovil or Frome, Burnham-on-sea, Cheddar, Minehead, or any listed below, please do call the office. Somerset Sight can help by supporting, promoting and connecting people and places.

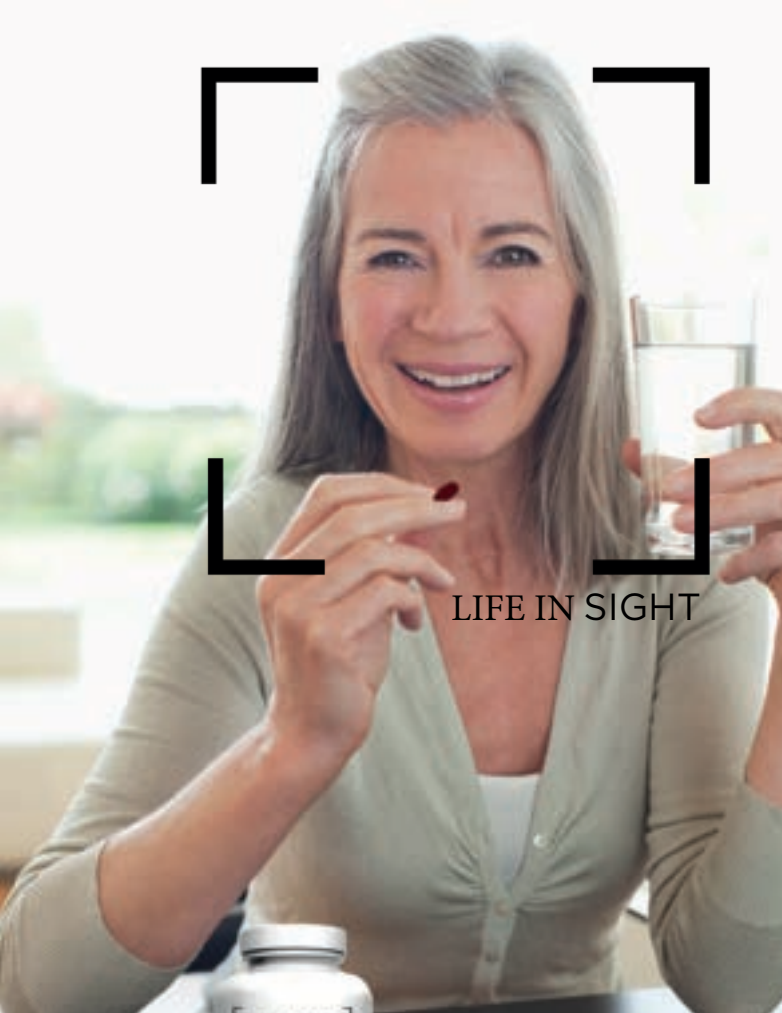
Please call Joanne on 01823 366143, or email joanne@somersetsight.org.uk for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Type	Day	Time	Where
Bridgwater Afternoon Tea	Second Wednesday of each month except January & August.	2.30pm - 4.30pm	St Francis Church Hall. TA6 4JA
Bridgwater Lunch Club Fish and Chips	Second Friday of each month.	12.00pm - 2.00pm	Victoria Park Community Centre, TA6 7AS
Bridgwater Social Evening	Last Friday of each month – Drinks/Bufferet	6pm onwards	Admirals Landing/ Quantock Gateway, Bridgwater TA6 3EX
Frome Social	Last Thursday of each month	10.00am - 12.00pm	The Blue House, The Bridge, Frome BA11 2AP
Ilminster Social	First Wednesday of each month	10.30am	Cafe No 57 Ilminster TA19 0AW

Please contact Somerset Sight prior to attending 01823 333818

Type	Day	Time	Where
Street Activity Group	First Monday of each month	11.00am -1.00pm	Lantokay Wetherspoons BA16 0EY
Taunton Singing Group	Every other Monday	2.00pm - 3.30pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton Social Dave’s Diner	First Wednesday of each month	12.00pm - 2.00pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton Tai Chi	Every other Thursday or Monday – please call to check	11.00am - 12.00pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton VI Bowls Club	Every Wednesday	11.00am - 1.00pm	Blackbrook Pavilion. TA1 2RW
Taunton Acoustic Rifle Club	Every Thursday	1.00pm - 4.00pm	Contact Somerset Sight for details
Taunton Craft Group	Every Friday	1.15pm - 3.15pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Wells Social	Second Friday of each month	10.15am - 12.00pm	The Loft Café, Wells Cathedral BA5 2RB
Yeovil Social Group	First Monday of each month	10.30am - 12.00pm	Westlands Entertainment Centre BA20 2DD
Yeovil VI Bowls Group	Every Tuesday	10.30am - 1.00pm	Yeovil Bowls Club BA21 4AS



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