



# Bournemouth Blind Society

Your local charity supporting blind & partially sighted people

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Editor: Jo Wood

## Arts & Crafts Exhibition



UPDATE ... we are excited to confirm that we are holding an Exhibition of Arts & Crafts our members have created. This will be at Bournemouth Library the week commencing 10th October. The event will coincide with World Sight Day (Thursday 13th) - an annual day of awareness to focus global attention on blindness and visual impairment.

Our exhibition will demonstrate how visually impaired people can still pursue hobbies and create exciting pieces of art. We look forward to showcasing our members' artistic talents.

Watch out for more details soon.

## Need it to Read it

By July 2016 the new NHS Accessible Standard comes into force, meaning that all healthcare providers must provide information in a format their patients can read.

The RNIB launched the 'Need it to Read it' campaign. This encourages blind and partially sighted people to notify their GP Practice Managers of their sight impairment and the accessible format required to suit their needs. This may be audio CD or cassette, Braille or large print (stating the font size required in any letter/e-mail).

It is believed that this new Standard will change patient communication across the NHS, enabling blind and partially sighted people to manage their own health with the same levels of privacy and independence that sighted people may take for granted.

## TAFN

The Accessible Friends Network is a UK based internet charity set up to bring VI people together via the world wide web.

In addition to having a really

comprehensive website with entertainment, events and quizzes, their members can speak with each other in chatrooms hosted on the site. The charity believes that enabling VI people to speak 'live' with each other greatly helps to cut down the social isolation felt by many.

All members need to participate is a microphone and speakers or a headset. A membership fee of £12 is charged for the year. For more information, take a look at their website: [www.tafn.org.uk](http://www.tafn.org.uk)

## Cricket

The **Dorset Dolphins** won their opening fixture of the season against the Kent Spitfires on 8th May. Kent scored 107 all out in 18 overs, Dorset scored 108 in 14 overs. Highlights of the match included Tim McKenzie scoring 50 runs (retired) and Evie Klamar taking 4 wickets.

Well done to all the team, who are now looking forward to their away match in Surrey on the 22nd of this month.

We are pleased to loan them our minibus for this trip and wish them the very best of luck!

## Walks



Our first walk this year was to Moors Valley at the end of April. A short shower didn't put us off and we had a fun time together, with some welcome refreshments in the café afterwards!

Our walks for the next two months are:

Friday 24th June - Swanage

Friday 29th July - New Forest (including a Picnic)

Please call the office on **01202 546644** if you would like to join us - try to book early as transport places may be limited!

## Volunteers

We are grateful that 3 new volunteers have joined us to help with the Walking Group.

We take this opportunity to thank **all** our volunteers, both in the Centre and out in the community. They enable us to help support our members,

offering them a wide range of rewarding activities.

If you know anyone who would like to join our volunteer team, please ask them to call **01202 546644** - just a few hours time commitment can enrich the lives of a Bournemouth Blind Society member.

## Arts Uni Event

The 'What Would You?' event organised by the Arts Uni students went ahead, despite the wind and rain.

All who attended gained new awareness of sight loss through guiding training and demonstrations of specialist equipment.

We thank the students for putting on the event and wish them luck in their future events management careers.



# Sight & Hearing Resource Centre

**Opening Hours:**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**10am - 1pm**

**Everyone** is welcome to visit our Resource Centre - **no appointment** is necessary. Our friendly staff and volunteers can offer full demonstrations of specialist equipment for sight and hearing impaired people which they may then order or purchase.

New products in our Resource Centre include:

**YoYo LED magnifier light** by Daylight Basics (£15). This compact, foldaway pocket magnifier has 3 bright LED lights and x3 magnification. It requires AAA batteries and is ideal for playing cards.

**Cobolt Speechmaster Talking Voice Recorder** with faux leather carry pouch (£28.50). This records 30 messages of a maximum of 30 seconds length and is useful for recording shopping lists, phone numbers and short messages.

**Geemarc CL7400 wireless headphones** are available for

demonstration in the Hearing Room - they can be connected to a TV, laptop, Audio, MP3 player or iPod, with a maximum range of 50 metres.



A **Cobolt Radio Cassette recorder** (£34).

**Cobolt Talking Bathroom scales** (£40).

We remind you that, for the summer season, we stock a range of anti glare eyeshields that you are welcome to try out. These start at £7.

Finally, we thank Jessica Verity and the manufacturers **Bierley**, who have kindly donated two **Explora** pocket electronic magnifiers for use as Raffle prizes at fundraising events. We are certain that the lucky winners of these items will be really grateful and make good use of them!

## Tuesday Drop in Cafe

Everyone is welcome to attend our Tuesday café, where cooked breakfasts are served between **10.30** and **12.30**. Roast lunches can be booked for the last Tuesday of each month.

Either make your own way here or phone a few days before to book the Minibus.

## Arts & Crafts

Our Arts & Crafts group will run for 2 sessions per month over the summer to create more pieces for the exhibition.

We hope you will invite as many of your family/friends as possible to visit the Library and admire the work that has been proudly produced here. We thank our volunteers **Jackie, Celia, Olivia** and **Lesley** for their continued commitment and dedication to the group.

## Hearing Club

Our **Hearing Club** will meet on Wednesdays **8th June** and **13th July 2016 (10.30-12.00)**

**Optional activities** can be offered, together with small group communications and refreshments.

## In the Community

At the end of April Geraldine attended the England Vision Strategy/Local Eye Health Network in Eastleigh. This strategy aims to address the problems faced on a daily basis by people with sight loss and promote the importance of maintaining good eye health.

Marie and Jo visited Head Start Day Nursery in early May to engage in an interactive session about senses and sight loss with a group of 3 and 4 year olds. Lots of fun and 'learning through play' took place!

On 5th July Philip is giving a talk to the Winton Methodist Ladies Group. On 19th July he is at Oakdale Mother's Union and on 8th August he is at Brendoncare, Castle Lodge, followed by a 10th August talk at Brendoncare, Highcliffe.

If you know any group who would like a presentation about visual impairment and our work, please contact Philip on **01202 546644** or e-mail: **philip.tarrant@bournemouthblindsociety.uk**

# Fundraising Thanks

We thank everyone for their continued generosity raising and donating funds for us. Donations have included:

The Bournemouth Chamber of Trade & Commerce donated £307 from their Centenary Dinner Raffle.

Bournemouth North Rotary Boules Team raised £408 at their annual competition.



Boules Captain Terry Wood is shown above presenting the cheques to Chief Exec Philip.

Our April Coffee morning raised £180. Thank you to all those who attended or baked cakes for the occasion.

Our tombola stall and games at the Kinson Fete/Donkey Derby raised £258.

Bournemouth Rotary Club generously donated £1,000.

Waitrose Winton's Community Matters token scheme raised £320 - thank you to everyone who voted for us.

We received donations in memory of members John Bennett and Ernie Batson.

We have also received several more donations towards our proposed Assistive Technology Suite:

£2,000 from the Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Trust

£250 from the Lionel Wigram Trust

£200 from Peter Oliver of the The Constitutional Club.

£100 from Bob Jowett of Northbourne Lodge.

As an independent, self-funded charity, we rely on donations such as these to help us continue providing our vital services to local blind and partially sighted people. We are extremely grateful to you all.

## VI Stories

Visually impaired author Hanoria Baranovich has written a trilogy of books to increase public awareness of visual impairment and raise funds for local blind societies. The first book in the series was called 'Who left that table there?' Each book details funny, happy and sad stories ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous about people's experience of sight loss.

If you have any stories you would like to share, please e-mail: [annibags1@msn.com](mailto:annibags1@msn.com), informing her that you are a member of Bournemouth Blind Society. Alternatively, you can share your stories with Jo in our office.

## Special Events

We invite you to two special fundraising events:

**Tea Party** to celebrate the **Queen's 90th Birthday** on **Saturday 4th June** from 2.30 - 4.30pm. Musical entertainment will be performed by Roseanna Bowen. A Raffle will be held. Tea kindly provided by Tesco, Castle Lane. Tickets cost £5.

**Wessex Chorus Concert** - 'Music for a Summer's Evening' will be presented on **Saturday 2nd July** at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5. Refreshments will be on sale during the interval.

Please call **01202 546644** to book for either of these events.

## Activities Bookings

Entertainment highlights from our June and July calendar:

**Thursday 2nd June** - Beach Hut Day.

**Monday 20th June** - Talk by The Owl Academy, with a chance to 'get up close' with a Barn Owl.

**Thursday 7th July** - Garden Party at the home of Councillor Nicola Greene.

**Monday 18th July** - Malcolm presents an interactive reminiscence session based on the Russell-Cotes Art collection.

**Thursday 28th July** - Paul Hammond Music.

Please remember to book early for these popular activities as transport places may be limited.

Please call 01202 546644 to book for either of these events taking place in our Rooper Hall. Enjoy superb entertainment, good food & company!

## Queen's Birthday Tea Party



**Saturday 4th June**  
**2.30 - 4.30 (£5)**



**with Musical Entertainment**  
**by Roseanna Bowen**  
(Tea kindly provided by Tesco, Castle Lane)

## Wessex Chorus Concert



**'Music for a Summer's Evening'**  
**Saturday 2nd July - 7.30pm (£5)**  
(with Refreshments for Sale)

## Bournemouth Blind Society

**5 Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth BH9 2RB**

**Tel 01202 546644 (General Enquiries)**

**Tel 01202 522184 (Community Services)**

Supporting blind and partially sighted people to remain independent and part of the community

**[www.bournemouthblindsociety.uk](http://www.bournemouthblindsociety.uk)**

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