



Bournemouth Blind Society

Your local charity supporting blind & partially sighted people

ISSUE 38

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Editor: Jo Wood



Over 120 members and supporters enjoyed a wonderful afternoon on 23rd April as we launched our new name and logo.

Guests included Nigel Wingate, a relative of one of the charity's founders; Councillors; Rotary and Lions Club representatives, together with members of the local business community.

Balloons and bunting, a Buffet tea in outdoor marquees, the sun shining brightly and entertainment by vintage duo 'Scarlet Swing' all added to the party atmosphere before the Mayor, Councillor Chris Mayne led a rousing countdown to the unveiling of the new sign.
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Chief Executive Philip Tarrant explains, 'Bournemouth Blind Society is a lifeline to many people with sight loss who otherwise feel isolated at home. Our members enjoy a 'family' atmosphere and making friends with others with visual impairment.'

He continues, 'the new logo has been welcomed as being both bright and modern – it features an eye merged within the brilliant sunshine that Bournemouth is best known for! Cheerfully optimistic, we hope it conveys the positive message that, although sight loss may be challenging, with the support and variety of opportunities our organisation offers, these challenges can be overcome! We thank Holly Mitchener of Panther Creative Designs and Neil Lewis of Silicon Designs for working with us on the logo and new website.'

We also thank The Andrew Cannon Band for entertaining our guests at the Launch Celebration Party on Saturday 25th April - what a fun evening of dancing, music, good food and good company we all enjoyed!

Coffee Morning

Our Coffee Morning & Table Top Sale takes place on **Thursday 28th May** from **10.30-12.30**.



Invite all your friends and family to enjoy this social event and find out a little more about us and what we do!

We will be selling Cakes, Books and Gifts.

Sight Awareness

Philip and Geraldine attended the Bournemouth East Cliff Rotary Quarter Marathon on Easter Saturday, with an information stand. They also raised awareness of sight loss by offering demonstrations of guiding. We thank East Cliff Rotary for their kind support.



In the Community

Philip presented a talk to the 32nd Bournemouth Beaver Scouts on 12th May.

Geraldine gave a talk at the Eventide Homes Coffee Morning on 13th May.

Marie will offer a session about emotional support for those with sight loss at Action for Blind People's 'Finding Your Feet' course in Bournemouth on 29th May. Philip will also give a talk about the society.

On Monday 13th July, our staff will be at Bournemouth Uni's 'Festival of Learning', offering workshops to raise awareness of sight loss and highlight the work of our organisation.

On 25th July Philip will be presenting a talk about our charity at Wallisdown & West Winton Forum.

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**

Chiropody

HPC registered chiropodist Margareth Sackett offers appointments every 6 weeks on Wednesday mornings for **£16**. Transport is available. The next dates are **3rd June** and **15th July**. Please phone **01202 546644** to book your appointment.

Tuesday Drop in Cafe

A lively atmosphere is enjoyed and cooked breakfasts are served each Tuesday from **10.30-12.30**.

Pre-booked roast lunches are available on the last Tuesday of the month. Minibus transport can be arranged. Come along to meet new friends, have some fun and a good chat!

Hearing Club

Our **Hearing Club** meets on the **2nd Wednesday** of each month (**10.30-12.00**). An opportunity for those with hearing loss to meet up, make friends and share experiences. Transport is available for **£4**.

Optional activities can be arranged. Next dates for the Hearing Club are **10th June** and **8th July**.

Glenhurst Manor

We are pleased to announce that our partnership with Glenhurst Manor continues.

On **Friday 19th June**, our members are invited to an afternoon cream tea and musical entertainment as part of 'National Care Homes Day'. Please let the office know if you wish to attend.

On **Saturday 18th July**, Glenhurst are holding their annual Summer Garden Party, (2pm) where they will raise funds for both us and Victoria School.

We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon there last year in the most glorious sunshine and picturesque surroundings.

There will be stalls, games, musical entertainment and a Pimms tent.

Admission is Free but Donations will be invited for cakes, games and cream teas.

Please invite all your family and friends to come along to enjoy this lovely afternoon and support two worthy local charities!



Walking Group



Our first walk this year, to Upton Park in sunny April, was well enjoyed. In May we visited Moors Valley.

Would you like to come out and enjoy a stroll with us? Get fit, explore the local area and have a chat with some new friends! Refreshment stop included! Minibus transport from your home is provided.

Details for our next walks:

Friday June 12th -

Hengistbury Head (£5)

Friday July 10th - Highcliffe Castle (£5)

Friday August 14th - New Forest (£7 includes Picnic)

Friday September 18th - The Chines (£5)

Please call **01202 546644** to book your place as soon as possible, before all the minibus spaces are taken!

Volunteer of the Year

On 18th May, Chief Exec Philip accompanied volunteer Maureen Powell to the Mayor's Volunteer of the Year award presentations, where she was 'highly commended for her service to the community.'



Maureen joined us in 2011 after losing her visually impaired husband. Maureen is 81 and, incredibly, regularly works for us 3 days per week, in addition to befriending members on her 'days off'! Her energy and dedication is an inspiration to us all, proving that volunteering can be achieved by people of all ages. Maureen has really enjoyed becoming part of our 'family', building friendships with staff, volunteers and members. She says, 'being a volunteer gives you the incentive to stay active and the satisfaction of

knowing you are helping people less fortunate than yourself.'

Chief Exec Philip adds, 'without wonderful and loyal volunteers like Maureen our charity could not provide its essential and varied services to partially sighted people in Bournemouth.'

We always welcome new volunteers. Please call **01202 546644** to find out more about the opportunities that exist both at the Centre and out in the community. We require volunteers to help as Befrienders and Minibus Escorts at the moment.'

Easter Egg Raffle



Our office volunteer Romy won our Easter Egg raffle. Thank you to everyone who took part in this and Guess the Name of the Dolly - over £150 was raised. Thank you all for your generosity.

Quiz Night

Our next fundraising Quiz Night is on **Saturday 20th June**. Doors open at **7pm** for a **7.30pm** Quiz start.

Teams of 6-8 people compete over 6 rounds of friendly fun, with an interval to enjoy Fish and Chips and an Ice-cream.

Tickets are **£9** and a Raffle is drawn at the end of the evening.

Guests may bring their own drinks or purchase alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from our Bar - all sold at reasonable and competitive prices. **All profits go to Bournemouth Blind Society.**

Please phone Caroline on **01202 546644** or e-mail:

caroline.simmons@bournemouthblindsociety.uk if you wish to join us and book in your team!

2015 Quiz Night Dates:

Saturday 19th September

Saturday 28th November

Fundraising

Chief Executive Philip was delighted to be presented with



a £1,000 cheque by Richard Roberts, Chairman of the Acorn Lodge of the Oddfellows in April. We thank the group for their generosity and for choosing us as their Charity of the year for 2014/15.



We raised over £500 at our Toy Tombola Stall and Bouncy Castle at the Kinson Donkey Derby. We thank Bournemouth North Rotary for inviting us.

We thank the Bournemouth Uni Events Management group of students for their donation from the 'Glow - a Black Light Playground' event.

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 offered for demonstration in our Resource Centre include:

RNIB DH337 lightweight, portable and compact rechargeable light with unique 'Z' fold. Ideal for use in the office or home (£30)



We have a Kindle available to demonstrate the reading of

large print books. (This Kindle can be purchased for about £60 at many major retailers)

With the summer hopefully on its way, we offer a range of wraparound sunglasses by Cobolt. These come in a variety of different colours, with prices starting at £6.50.

Activities Bookings

Please don't forget to check your Activities Calendar to find out what's going on during June and July.

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us as we plan more outside activities, such as a **Beach Hut Day** (8th June), two **Garden Parties** (25th June, 9th July) and a **Summer Party** (30th July) with a BBQ and outdoor games.

We thank Councillor Nicola Greene and Marion Keir for generously allowing us to use their gardens.

You can book Activities, Lunch and Transport by phoning the office on 01202 546644.



You are invited to a



SUMMER DANCE

on Saturday 25th July

7.30pm

in The Rooper Hall

Tickets: £10 (includes Food)

Enjoy dancing to
different styles of Music

Have a fun evening with your friends!

Cash Bar & Raffle



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

Company No: 5792657

Charity No: 1114570