

Somerset Insight



01823 333818

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

Registered Charity No: 1154472

Issue 80
September 2024

Local Volunteers Needed



Contents Page

Page 3	CEO Report
Page 4	Chair of Trustees Report
Page 5	Thank Yous
Page 6 - 7	In Memory of Bella Flood
Page 7	Raising Profile of Somerset Sight
Page 8 - 9	Dining in the Dark
Page 10	Orcam Open Day
Page 11 - 12	Donation Form
Page 13 - 16	MAS Dates
Page 17	Humanware
Page 18	Tenby and Torquay
Page 19	Upcoming Activities
Page 20	Volunteers Party
Page 20	Join Our Team
Page 21	Why not give it a go?
Page 22	Just Memories
Page 22	Did you know?
Page 22	AGM

Page 23	Upcoming Children's Activities
Page 24	Monthly Get Togethers
Page 25	Come and join in
Page 25	Christmas Party
Page 26-27	Social Groups
Page 28	Viteyes

Meeting Rooms and Desks for Hire

Somerset Sight has two Boardrooms, ideal for Team Meetings for 20–30 people
 Plus a smaller room suitable for 8 – 12 people
 Also desks available for hot desking.
 Centrally located and parking nearby.
 Available: days, evenings and weekends.

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

CEO Report



Photo of Jackie and Dogs

The kitchen upgrade project has a potential start date in early 2025 however we are still seeking additional funding. Can you please help? Anyone who wishes to contribute, please do so without delay. You will be included in the commemorative plaque showing our generous supporters and invited to the Opening. Please contact us to make your donation over the phone.

The team here at Somerset Sight is, frankly, astounding. Every member of staff and all our volunteers do so much to improve lives. Every day they show huge patience, energy, resilience and empathy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for being such a brilliant and successful team. I am also delighted to say we have a new team member starting in October. Susie, whom some of you already know, will be our community

support and communications officer.

As I say, our team do a huge amount to improve lives. Here are a few snippets from people who benefit from our Volunteer Visiting Service. This service is invaluable to the 275 people across the county who now receive regular support.

“Thank you so very much for all you have done, I am extremely grateful, you have helped me so much already. You have made such a difference to my life, I am delighted and I now have less to worry about and more things to look forwards to, especially my volunteer visiting me, thank you.”

“My Somerset Sight volunteer is the best thing to have happened to me for years, I know I wasn't sure if I wanted a volunteer visiting me, but thank goodness you persuaded me, as now I don't know how I would manage without her”

Please watch out for the new pictures and wording on the Mobile Advisory Service. 40 destinations are visited and more than 1700 people receive help each year.

If you would like to help secure the future of Somerset Sight services, please donate generously or leave us a gift in your will.

Chair of Trustees Report

These last few months have been extremely busy for Somerset Sight. There was the Tenby holiday, the volunteers garden party and Dining in the Dark as well as the usual activities held throughout the year.

The garden party was attended by the High Sheriff who kindly presented long service awards and certificates of recognition to our volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all volunteers for the time and effort they give to support the charity.

The Dining in the Dark fundraising event was set in the beautiful surroundings of Old Bridge, South Petherton. It was a successful evening enjoyed by all those who attended and I would like to thank John and Liz Blake for kindly giving us the use of their lovely home.

These events do not just happen; there is a lot of work and planning involved. The staff work extremely hard to make sure that they take place and are so successful. I would like to thank the staff for all that they do not only to help with these events but also everything

else they do for visually impaired people in Somerset.

With Dining in the Dark, a lot of work was also undertaken by a sub-committee of the trustees arranging the catering, getting sponsors, obtaining lots for the auction and arranging the raffle. I appreciate this hard work and on behalf of all trustees am very grateful. I have been Chair of Trustees for a year now and am grateful for the help and support I have been given. I look forward to a further successful year for Somerset Sight and all those involved with the charity.

Paul Fellingham
Chair of Trustees



Photo of Paul

Thank Yous



Marly keeps on running

We would like to say a huge thank you to Marly for running the Wells 10K race on 26th May to raise funds for Somerset Sight.

Marly has already run the Bath Half Marathon and the Two Tunnels Race in Bath. Thank You Marly!!!

Photo of Marly



Photo of Frukés Cheque presentation

Frome Ukulele Club

On May 11th, Frome Ukulele Club, aka Frukés, held a special charity gig and raised £500 for Somerset Sight.

It was a very entertaining night with popular songs played in a way you may not have heard before! Thank you so much for supporting us in this unique and special way.

Nether Stowey Wednesday Club

Following a talk on the services that Somerset Sight provides, a cheque for £50 was presented by the Nether Stowey Wednesday Club. The weekly Lunch Club meets every Wednesday from 10am to 2pm and is a great place to meet other people and chat.

The Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity - No. 261

A generous cheque for £250 was received from Masons Lodge 261, Taunton, with many thanks.

Coffee Mornings

Bishopwood Chapel, Buckland St Mary kindly raised £202 and Holy Trinity Church Council, Long Sutton donated £681.20 from their coffee mornings.

Donation Pots

Thank you to the many organisations and individuals who kindly display the pink elephant pots to collect donations for us.

In Memory of Bella Flood

Bella Flood, Chair of Somerset Sight 2013 -2023, who sadly died on 19th May 2024

In mid-2013 Sarah Evans announced to the Trustee board that she was moving to Devon and felt she needed to relinquish being Chair of Somerset Sight. This caused the Trustees concern as there was no one among us who was able to take up the baton. We would need to recruit someone entirely new.

We scoured our address books for possible candidates and also appointed a local head-hunter – no one very promising turned up. We were then alerted to a local couple – Richard and Bella Flood – who had recently sold a seed business and who clearly now didn't have enough to do!! We sparked an interest in Bella who had previously been involved in supporting deafness. She felt she would enjoy being involved in another sensory charity and duly joined us as the new Chair in October 2013.

It didn't take long for us to realise that we had struck gold!! Bella was organised, disciplined, happy to act as the lead for Somerset



Photo of Bella

Sight but also able to delegate, so that her workload was kept under sensible control. She was tireless at spreading knowledge of Somerset Sight and engaged her many friends and contacts to also support the charity. And to cap it all she was charming and easy to work with. She had a wonderful knack for remembering people's names and personal details which greatly endeared her to the Somerset Sight staff, service users and volunteers from the start.

Under her Chairmanship the fundraising and marketing capabilities of the Charity were successfully expanded, greatly improving the take up of the services by those who would



Photo of Christine, Paul and Bella

benefit. Links with the eye departments in both Musgrove and Yeovil hospitals were strengthened so that patients would quickly learn about the practical and emotional support offered by Somerset Sight. She introduced a 5-year Management Plan and was unflagging in her enthusiasm and support for the Charity.



Photo of Bella and Christine

Somerset Sight owes a great debt of gratitude to Bella – a Chair under whom the charity thrived and grew into what it is today.

Raising the profile of Somerset Sight

Following on from Bella's hard work in expanding awareness of the charity, staff regularly present talks to various community groups and professionals. These talks have proved to be very useful in raising the profile and

sustainability of Somerset Sight and we reach people who may not have heard of us.

If you would or know someone who would like a talk from us, please call the office or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk to discuss.

Dining in the Dark

At the beautiful venue of The Old Bridge, South Petherton, on a lovely summer evening, 9th August, Somerset Sight held the 4th Dining in the Dark fundraising event.

After drinks and canapés on the lawn, over 90 guests were given blindfolds and led into the dining area table by table. They learnt what it is to be sight impaired and to have to navigate their surroundings.

Once seated, how do you know if the wine bottle contains red or white wine? Where is the glass – how do we pour without spillage? What's this on my plate? You have to work out what you are eating and where it is on the plate.



Photo of Children selling raffle tickets



Photo of Dining in the Dark

After a hilarious game of Heads and Tails and a wondrous range of raffle prizes won sales helped by children of the Blake family, Richard Kay, Auctioneer from Lawrence's of Crewkerne, managed to persuade our guests to help Somerset Sight more by bidding on some amazing lots. The highest bid was for a portrait sitting and lunch with Johnny Jonas, who has painted Royalty. The evening raised over £10,000 and Somerset Sight would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed, especially the Blake Family, owners of Old Bridge and the generous donors and business sponsors.

Dining in the Dark Sponsors and Supporters

Sworders – Rural Property Consultants

Wessex Water

Earlam and Christopher
HR Dept

Watson and Smith Optometrists

Butcombe Brewery

Chesil Smokery

Clarks Village

Crewshield Ltd

Eat In Style Ltd

F1 Authentics

Lawrences Auctioneers

Old Bridge South Petherton

Polygon Woodcrafting Ltd

Seaton Tramway

Taunton and Pickering Golf Club

Taunton Racecourse and
Conference Centre

Thatchers Cider

The Castle at Taunton

The Jockey Club Live

Turners Concept Eye Clinic

Vine Wines

Wild by Tart

Wiscombe Park Speed Hillclimb

Wykes Farms



Photo of Guests wearing blindfolds and being led in to dinner



OrCam Read Open Day



Come along to the Open Day at Northfield House on Wednesday 2nd October from 10am – 2pm

Please call Somerset Sight on 01823 333818 to book your appointment

A Game-Changer for People with Low Vision or Reading Difficulties

Call 07545 951797 to arrange your home demonstration

Try the full OrCam range in the comforts of your home

- Assistive Technology for the Visually Impaired
- The Award-winning full-page text to Speech Reader
- Ultra-small and lightweight hand-held device
- Suitable for those with moderate to low vision
- Helps Read Post, Menu's, Newspapers and Books along with small Details on Prescriptions and Food Packaging
- Point and Press with NEW "Hey OrCam" voice commands
- **Save £100 off all OrCam Products at Touchpoint Vision**
- My Eye Pro - £3600
- My Eye Smart - £2600
- OrCam Read 3 - £1900
- Plus Free Reading Stand
- Telephone Mike Page on 07545 951797 or
- **Touchpointvision.co.uk or Touchpoint vision@gmail.com**



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	
-----------	--	------	--

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

Mobile Advisory Service Dates September 2024 - December 2024

Mendip

Area	Date	Location	Time
Glastonbury	Tue 22 nd Oct	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 5 th Dec	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Frome	Mon 14 th Oct	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 9 th Dec	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Shepton Mallet	Mon 30 th Sep	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 11 th Nov	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Wells	Mon 9 th Sept	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 31 st Oct	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 28 th Nov	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm

Sedgemoor

Area	Date	Location	Time
Cheddar	Mon 23 rd Sep	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 21 st Oct	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 18 th Nov	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 16 th Dec	Sainsbury's	10.30am – 3.30pm



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

May 2024 – September 2024

Sedgemoor			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Bridgwater	Fri 6 th Sep	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Tue 24 th Sep	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 18 th Oct	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Thurs 24 th Oct	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 1 st Nov	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 15 th Nov	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Tue 26 th Nov	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 6 th Dec	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
Burnham-on-Sea	Wed 4 th Sep	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 15 th Oct	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 6 th Nov	B & M	10.30am – 3.30pm
Cannington	Thurs 17 th Oct	By the brook	10.30am – 12.30pm
	Tue 12 th Nov	By the brook	10.30am – 12.30pm
Highbridge	Thurs 14 th Nov	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 10 th Dec	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Nether Stowey	Thurs 17 th Oct	St Mary's	1.30pm - 3.30pm
	Tue 12 th Nov	Church Centre	1.30pm - 3.30pm
N. Petherton	Thurs 7 th Nov	Car Park	10.30am – 1.30pm

South Somerset			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Chard	Fri 8 th Nov	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 13 th Dec	Hospital	10.30am – 1.30pm
Crewkerne	Fri 27 th Sep	Henhayes	10.30am – 1.30pm
	Fri 29 th Nov	Centre	10.30am – 1.30pm

South Somerset			
Area	Date	Location	Time
Ilminster	Thurs 19 th Sep	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 21 st Nov	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Martock	Thurs 5 th Sep	Car Park	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Fri 22 nd Nov	Car Park	10.30am – 1.30pm
Langport	Mon 2 nd Sep	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 19 th Nov	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Somerton	Weds 11 th Sep	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 30 th Oct	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 27 th Nov	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Weds 11 th Dec	Cox's Yard	10.30am – 3.30pm
Stoke sub Hamdon	Mon 25 th Nov	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Wincanton	Mon 28 th Oct	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Mon 2 nd Dec	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Yeovil	Wed 25 th Sep	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 23 rd Oct	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 20 th Nov	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 18 th Dec	Hospital	10.30am – 3.30pm
Castle Cary	Mon 16 th Sep	Car Park	10.30am - 3.30pm
	Mon 4 th Nov	Car Park	10.30am – 3.30pm

Mobile Shop and Advisory Service Dates

Taunton Deane

Area	Date	Location	Time
Wellington	Tue 29 th Oct	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 19 th Dec	ASDA	10.30am – 3.30pm
Wiveliscombe	Wed 18 th Sep	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm

West Somerset

Area	Date	Location	Time
Minehead	Tue 10 th Sep	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 16 th Oct	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Wed 13 th Nov	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Thurs 12 th Dec	Morrisons	10.30am – 3.30pm
Dulverton	Wed 18 th Sep	Car Park	10.30am – 12.30pm
Porlock	Tue 17 th Sep	Car Park (nr the One Stop Shop)	10.30am – 12.30pm
Williton	Tue 17 th Sep	Car Park	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Watchet	Thurs 26 th Sep	Coach Park	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 17 th Dec	Coach Park	10.30am – 3.30pm

Devon

Area	Date	Location	Time
Cullompton	Tue 1 st Oct	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
	Tue 3 rd Dec	Tesco	10.30am – 3.30pm
Tiverton	Tue 3 rd Sep	Tesco	10.30am - 3.30pm
	Tue 5 th Nov	Tesco	10.30am - 3.30pm

Humanware™

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

Tenby 2024 and Torquay 2025

Somerset Sight 2024 Trip to Tenby

On Tuesday 18 June 2024, I went on my first ever Somerset Sight trip, staying in the Imperial Hotel, Tenby. After stopping for lunch at the Plough and Harrow in Swansea, we arrived mid Afternoon. After the evening meal, a group of us strolled down to the beach for a walk. It was a lovely evening. The next day we visited Caldey Island. When I agreed to the holiday, I said 'No way am I going on a boat!'. But with

encouragement of staff and others I got on! Then, after a fabulous day and evening meal, we had a friendly quiz night. My team came joint first!

I very much enjoyed the holiday to Tenby with Somerset Sight. I made so many new friends and have done many more things and feel much more confident since making that first effort. I would encourage other people to take part in all that Somerset Sight offers.

Phil Holman



Photo of the Tenby Group

Come on holiday to Torquay with Somerset Sight in 2025

June 2nd – 6th 2025 - 4 nights at the TLH Carlton Hotel, Torquay.

Price (TBC) to include twin sharing room, breakfast, evening meal and great daytime and evening entertainment.

Access to Aztec Leisure Spa (extra costs may apply) and Torquay just down the road with a regular bus service.

Staff will be there to support and encourage on this relaxing trip.

If you are interested, please ring Somerset Sight to put your name forward on 01823 333818.

Upcoming Activities

Sheppy's Cider Farm Tour and Tasting Day Wednesday 16th October - 10.30am

A day at the House of Cider touring the orchards, museum, learning how cider is made and taste the end result, then purchase a tasty lunch in the on-site café.

Venue: Three Bridges, Bradford-on-Tone, Taunton TA4 1ER

Price for tour & tasting £20



Photo of the Sheppy's Cider

Christmas Lunch Wednesday 4th December with Dave's Diner

A lovely 2 course Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, to be held at Northfield House from 12pm. All welcome. £20 per person.

Panto Season is upon us

Audio described Pinocchio at The Brewhouse, Taunton, 7pm Friday December 13th £29 and Jack and the Beanstalk at Westlands, Yeovil, 2pm Saturday 21st December £28. One essential companion per person allowed free.

Is Ten Pin Bowling up your alley? Two trips in 2025

Then join us on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at Hollywood Bowl, Yeovil.

Or Wednesday 12th February 2025, Hollywood Bowl, Taunton.

Bowling starts 12pm at both venues. £7.50 per person for two games each



Photo of the Ten Pin Bowling

For all these activities, please call the office to book your place 01823 333818

Volunteers Party

The Annual Summer Garden Party for Volunteers and Service Users was held in the lovely garden of Northfield House, on Thursday 4th July 2024.

Entertainment was provided by Chris Ball on the piano as 90 people enjoyed the buffet lunch.

The many volunteers who support Somerset Sight, through visiting people and running the valuable social groups, were presented Long Service Awards and Certificates of Recognition by the High Sheriff of Somerset, Mr Rob Beckley, resplendent in full regalia.

The photograph on the right shows Wendy Woodward, Lianne Graham and Pearl O'Hare receiving their Volunteer Recognition Awards. Together these ladies have run the Bridgwater Afternoon Tea group for over 30 years.



Photo of the Summer Party



Photo of the Volunteers receiving their long service award certificates

Join Our Team

Somerset Sight is recruiting volunteers to befriend visually impaired people on a regular basis. Would you like to help someone in your local area?

Join our team of volunteers, who help people to remain independent

and overcome loneliness and isolation.

All reasonable and out of pocket expenses are paid.

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

Why not give it a go?

Hooked on Crochet!

There's an expression that states: 'Everyone needs a hobby'. If you said that to service user Jason Winsley he'd probably reply along the lines of "What, only one?". Already an acclaimed artist, more than competent cook and prolific model maker, he has now become obsessed with crochet.

It all started whilst sitting enjoying a coffee. Someone was doing crochet and Jason became fascinated. Always one to take up a challenge he decided to give it a go himself. Fast forward a few weeks and now in his own words, he is addicted. He specialises in brightly coloured squares which he will eventually join together to make a blanket. If the Government declares a national wool shortage anytime soon, we know who to blame.



Photo of Jason crocheting

Metro Blind Sports Athletics Open

Another of our service users, Elisha Gill, is an active lady. As well as being an in-house volunteer, visiting friends and going to concerts, Elisha took part in the Metro blind sports athletics open. This is a sports day for visually impaired and blind individuals of any age and capability, to compete in a variety of field and track sports. It is held annually in London and has volunteers on hand to help assist and guide participants throughout the day.

Elisha competed in javelin, long jump, 100 metres and shot put and managed to achieve two silver and two gold medals from the events. In her own words: "I came out with many friends from the event and a big sense of achievement for having a go. The atmosphere of people cheering is encouraging and positive."

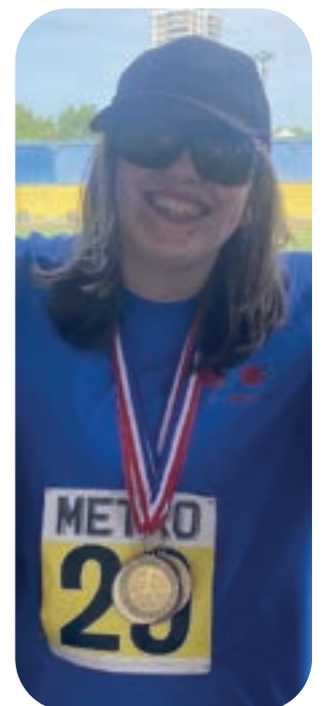


Photo of Elisha

Just Memories



Photo of Just Memories Book Cover

All Author royalties from a book written by Geoffrey Taylor, a Somerset Sight user are being donated to Somerset Sight. The book is about his childhood in Yorkshire during the 1930s, and experiences staying with the German police, training dogs for security and household behaviour. After 20 years living and working in Spain, Geoff is now retired and living in the West Country. These many memories are shared in words and photos of an interesting life in England and overseas.

The book is available to purchase from bookmundo.com/shop and search for Just Memories.

Did You Know?!

You can listen to our Magazine on your Alexa! Just ask Alexa to Enable or Play Talking Newspapers, when it asks for the name of the newspaper or town say **Taunton**. Then the first item it reads out is the Somerset Sight Magazine.

Somerset Sight 2024 AGM

Somerset Sight AGM will be held on Thursday 17th October 11.30am at The Market House, Market Place Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7AH followed by a light lunch.

Please RSVP by Friday 11th October or call the office on 01823 333818

Upcoming Children's Activities

Family Sports Open Day, 11am - 3pm, Saturday 21st September 2024

A great opportunity to learn more about different Visually Impaired sports, including cricket and acoustic rifle shooting. A representative from the Duke of Edinburgh Award will be in attendance to explain more about the support that is available for anyone doing your DofE. Free to attend, light lunch included.



Photo of child at the shooting range

Cook & Share, 10:30am – 2:00pm, Tuesday 29th October 2024

Come and cook a tasty lunch to share with your family and friends.

A quick and easy stir-fry with meat and vegetarian options.

Also learn some helpful nutritional tips. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.



Photo of children cooking

Children's Xmas Pantomime, 2pm, Saturday 14th December

Fe Fi Fo Fum! We smell that panto season is here! Come and join us for a fun afternoon to see if Jack can escape the giant!

Cost: £10 per child, 1 free Essential Companion per visually impaired child, £24.50 per adult.



Photo of Jack and the Beanstalk

Monthly Get Togethers

Frome Social Group

The last Thursday of the month sees a group of people meeting at The Blue House, Frome to discuss various topics, be updated about Somerset Sight and arrange their next trip. All over a lovely piece of cake and a cuppa.

Since forming just a few months ago, so far this year they have been to Shearwater Lake, Frome Museum and Southwick Country Park, with other trips planned.



Photo of Frome Social Group

Yeovil Social Group

Meeting on the first Monday of the month, at Westlands Entertainment Venue in Yeovil and every third Monday of the month at the Bell (Hungry Horse) for lunch, a group gets together for chats, drinks and food and

planning trips. This year they have been to Sidmouth, Weymouth, planned their Christmas meal and looking at events and outings in 2025. The group has brought lots of people together who also sometimes socialise outside of the group meetings.



Photo of Yeovil Social Group

If you would like to join any of our social groups, please call the office on 01823 333818.

Come and Join In

Weekly, two weekly and monthly groups held in Taunton. Everyone welcome. Please call 01823 333818.

Guitar Club

Alternate Tuesdays. One-to-one slots. Suitable for beginners or experienced guitarists.

Singing Group

Alternate Mondays. Informal and fun to learn new songs.



Photo of Guitar Club

Music Appreciation

Alternate Mondays. Hear the background and music of different composers.

Tai Chi Qigong

First Thursday of the month. Relaxing movement standing or sitting down.

Craft group

Every Friday. Try a new craft or continue with own project.



Photo of Singing Group

Somerset Sight Christmas Party

All invited!

Monday 16th December 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Come and enjoy mulled wine, mince pies and seasonal songs

Northfield House, 51 Staplegrove Road, Taunton TA1 1DG

RSVP by 12th December.

Call or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk

Social Groups

Type	Day	Time	Where
Bridgwater Lunch Club Fish and Chips	Second Friday of each month.	12.00pm – 2.00pm	Contact Somerset Sight for details
Bridgwater Evening Meal	Last Friday of each month – Drinks/meal	6pm onwards	Contact Somerset Sight for details
Burnham-on-sea Social	Third Tuesday of each month	10:30am -12:00pm	The Waffle Hub, The Methodist Church, College Street, Burnham on Sea, TA8 1AS
Frome Social	Last Thursday of each month	10.00am - 12.00pm	The Blue House, 4 The Bridge, Frome BA11 1BH
Chard & Ilminster Social	First Wednesday of each month – Check with office	10.30am – 12pm	Cafe No 57, East St, Ilminster TA19 0AW
Martock Social	Third Thursday of each month	2:30pm	The George, Martock, TA12 6JU
Merriott Social	First Thursday of the month	2.30pm	The Feed Station, Sandy Hole, Merriott TA16 5QR
Street Activity Group	First Monday of each month	11.00am-1.00pm	The Lantokay, Wetherspoons, 111 – 113 High Street, Street BA16 0EY
Taunton Singing Group	Every other Monday	2.00pm – 3.30pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton Music Appreciation	Every other Monday	2.00pm – 3.30pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG

Please contact Somerset Sight prior to attending 01823 333818

Type	Day	Time	Where
Taunton Social Dave's Diner	First Wednesday of each month	11.00am -1.00pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton Tai Chi	First Thursday of the month	11am – 12pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Taunton VI Bowls Club	Every Wednesday	11.00am-1.00pm	Blackbrook Pavilion. TA1 2RW
Taunton Acoustic Rifle Club	Every Thursday	11.00am – 2pm	Contact Somerset Sight for details
Taunton Craft Group	Every Friday	1.00pm-3.00pm	Somerset Sight TA1 1DG
Wells Social	Second Friday of each month	10.15am - 12.00pm	The Well's Cathedral Café, The Loft, Wells, BA5 2UE,
Yeovil Social Group	First Monday of each month	10.30am -12.00pm	Westlands Entertainment Centre, Westbourne Close, Yeovil BA20 2DD
Yeovil VI Bowls Group	Every Tuesday	10.30am - 1.00pm	Yeovil Bowls Club, 35A Higher Kingston, Yeovil BA21 4AS
Zoom Quiz	Every Thursday	3:30pm	Ask office to send Zoom link

Somerset Sight's address is:
Northfield House, 51 Staplegrove Road, Taunton TA1 1DG



VIT EYES: backed by over fifteen years' experience in eye health supplements

Viteyes 2 SOFTGELS are a high quality, cost effective and easy to take supplement. Distributed by eye health professionals, they are proven to support everyday eye health concerns. It contains a research based blend of vitamins and minerals including:

- Zinc which helps maintain normal vision.
- Vitamins C & E which contribute to the protection of cells from oxidative stress.
- Key protective macular pigments lutein and zeaxanthin.

Also available as **vegan friendly** Viteyes 2 CAPSULES, ADVANCED and ZINC FREE.

VIT EYES[®]
LIFE IN SIGHT



To order, call us **FREE** on **0800 978 8692** or online at www.viteyes.co.uk with **FREE standard UK delivery**