



REGISTERED CHARITY 202573

NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2016

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Diary dates: Coffee mornings – 11am to 2pm
April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13,
August 10 and September 14.
Quiz night – Saturday 25 June, 7pm

HUNTINGDONSHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

**8 ST MARY'S STREET
HUNTINGDON
PE29 3PE**

**Telephone: 01480 453438
email: info@huntsblind.co.uk
www.huntsblind.co.uk
twitter: www.twitter.co.uk/@huntsblind**

**THE CENTRE INCLUDES THE OFFICE, SHOP AND EQUIPMENT
ROOM WHICH IS OPEN 10.00 am. to 3.00 pm.
MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

Here to help:

Manager:	Erika Brown
Administrator:	Helen Bosworth
Social Activities Co-ordinators	Andrea Murphy
	Rachel Sutherland
Outreach worker (north)	Vicki Jones
Outreach worker (south)	Jenny McInnes
Fundraising co-ordinator	Tanya Forster
Eye clinic liaison officer	Vicky French

*The Newsletter is available to all members either by paper copy, CD, e-mail or Braille. If you would like to receive it in a different format than the one you are currently receiving please contact us on **01480 453438**.*

While every effort is made to ensure that the content of this newsletter is correct, we cannot be held responsible for errors. Goods and services featured do not carry any recommendation from Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind.

Hello!

I hope you enjoy reading through our latest newsletter which aims to bring you up to date with news and activities from the society as well as from other organisations we work alongside.

In our last newsletter I talked about recruiting a new Social Events Coordinator and I'm absolutely delighted that Rachel Sutherland agreed to join the team in December. Rachel will be looking after the St Neots and St Ives clubs as well as working alongside Andrea to support other groups such as the sports and social; walking; and arts and crafts clubs. We have also appointed a Fundraising Coordinator, Tanya Forster, who is concentrating on sourcing funds for our building project. Tanya and Rachel have slotted in seamlessly to the staff team we have at Hunts Blind and are both enjoying learning more about the charity and meeting our members, carers and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who has made them feel so welcome.

I'm sure you're all keen to hear the latest on the building project following our successful planning application last year for additional office space. We've been very busy finalising plans, talking to contractors and making initial investigations. The project isn't without its challenges – what building project isn't - but I'm pleased that we are making good progress and hope to start works in the next few months. Tanya has been working very hard to raise funds for the build through grants and events but we would be delighted to hear from you should you wish to make a personal donation to help off-set the capital cost. Please do get in contact with the office if you would like further information. My sincere thanks to everyone who has made a donation following our appeal in our last newsletter – your contributions are truly appreciated.

We clearly have a busy and challenging year ahead and I look forward to keeping you up to date with developments.

*Erika Brown
Manager*

SOCIETY NEWS AND NOTICES

Hi from Rachel

For those of you who haven't already met me, my name is Rachel Sutherland and I am the new Social Events Co-ordinator for St Ives and St Neots clubs as well as some of the society's other activities. I am really enjoying the role and I'm looking forward to getting to know more about you all.



In my home life I am married to Jason, who works for Ferrero - just as well I like chocolate! I'm mum to Molly, Niamh and not forgetting my dog and 2 hamsters. I am a keen sports enthusiast, running being my passion which is just as well with all the chocolate I consume, and every Saturday you will find me on the touch lines of a football match cheering on one of my daughters.

I have really enjoyed my first few months at the Society and I'm very much looking forward to meeting more of you at future events.

And "Hi" from Tanya

My name is Tanya Forster and I am the new Fundraising Coordinator for the Society. I have recently spent two years as Deputy Mayor of Huntingdon, which involved a lot of fundraising for the Mayor's charities. I am still a town councillor for Huntingdon.

In my home life I am married to Jonathan who works for Anglian Water and we have four children, Lucy, Jack, Charlie and Alfie. We also have two dogs and two cats, so a very busy household indeed.



My main role at the society is to fundraise for the new extension. I am currently applying to big companies, governing bodies and trust funds as well as holding events. So if you have any fundraising ideas, I would love to hear from you.

Member News

Birthdays

We would like to send our best wishes to all members celebrating a birthday in April, May, June and July. Members celebrating a **special birthday** in the coming months are: Teresa Brock, Lynda Conquest, Winifred Fountain, Peggy Webb, Jean Wilson, Peggy Bridgewater, Kathleen Loeffler, Val McNeaney, Nigel Minnett, Ray Baxendale, Huru Bibi, Ruth Butler, Betty Doyle, Charlotte Fellows, Douglas Hookham, Julie Smith, Mervyn Turner, Janet Weatherley, Keith Daines, Richard Fox, Russell Groom, Margaret Hamilton-Wilkes and Raymond Martin. We wish them all a very special happy birthday.

Deaths

We are very sorry to report the deaths of the following members: Philip Payne, David Crockatt, George Orbell, Peggy Patterson, Molly Cabbage, Catherine Bushell, Jimmy Schnaars, Margaret Cork, Angela Collett, Joyce Mckerron, Arthur West, Dorothy Houlden, Doreen Mart, Ann Brinkhurst, Paul Attfield, Juanita Ellis, Alec Cernik, Renee Mejer, Sybil Morrison and Sheila Brett.

Shop closure

The shop/office will also be closed on Monday 2 and 30 May 2016.

Social Activities Report by Rachel & Andrea

In January St Ives club members were entertained by singer John Pilbeam who performed some great hits from the past. Members joined in with lots of tuneful singing and gentle swaying – John certainly gave the group a great afternoon to remember.

Sean “The Banjo Man” entertained the Huntingdon club in January. He told jokes and funny stories and played “duelling banjos” on his own which were superb. We’re hoping to book him for the other clubs in the future.

Rubbish was the topic in January for St Neots and Ramsey clubs who had a very informative talk from Nick King of recycling company Amy Cespa. We never knew how interesting talking rubbish could be! Nick gave a very energetic presentation along with his 7 man-size humans all made out of recycled materials. There were demonstrations on several recycled products, including a waistcoat made entirely out of club ties.



Members had some excellent questions for Nick who was able to give advice on recycling at home.

In March all four clubs will be entertained by the country group Dark Horse Duo and in April the fish and chip van will be parking outside each club venue providing lunch. This means that April clubs will be held earlier than normal so please check the time on your social events list or else your chips will be soggy and your fish will have “haddock” enough of waiting around!

After a bit of head scratching as to the clubs’ May outing we decided we would get you all in the mood for a day out at the Wicksteed Park theatre to see the show “In the Mood” based on swing music from the Glen Miller era. Lunch, afternoon tea and transport will be provided in the bargain price of £20 per head. It seems to have been a popular choice as the trip is now fully booked for over 110 members and carers.

The outing in August is currently under discussion and we will let you have more news in the coming months. We are taking into consideration the length of time seated on a coach and hope the destination will be no further than two hours away.

Arts and Crafts Group

In February the group enjoyed flower arranging with chocolates hidden among the flowers for our special valentine.



In April we will be making an ideal present to give away - jam jars will be decorated with lace and inside there will be a present of tea lights and matches tied together. A flint will be on the jar lid, providing a perfect present. The jar upside down, over a lit tea light, with the flame glowing through the lace provides a stunning effect. We are hoping to get into a production line

to make enough to sell at the Society's April coffee morning, in aid of the new extension to the building at 8 St Mary's Street Huntingdon. More news on that in the fundraising section.

Sports and Social Group

We are delighted that this club is back up and running on a bi monthly basis. We met in February at the Samuel Pepys Pub for a brunch, drink and a natter. It's a tough job but someone has to do it! We had a lovely meal and the service was excellent. We chatted about up and coming ideas for the group, including fishing, the ladybird trip, bowling and an evening quiz.

In April we are going to have a talk by local Paralympian John Harmer who will be giving us an insight into his life training for the Olympics. He will also be bringing along his medals for us to take a look at. A walk has been organised in Houghton for Tuesday 26 April so if you are interested please contact Andrea or Rachel at the office.

If you are not currently a member of these social groups but think you might be interested in joining please telephone the office on **01480 453438** and speak to one of the office staff. We have a lot of fun at the events we organise and they provide a great opportunity for us to catch up with you and you to catch up with us! Door to door transport can be provided for any club for just £1.

Social Clubs

ST NEOTS SOCIAL GROUP

Methodist Church Hall, Berkley Street, Eynesbury, St Neots.

Date	Venue, Activity & Time
Monday 4th April	Fish and Chips lunch, 12 - 2pm
Friday 20 May	Outing to Wicksteed Park, "in the mood"
Monday 6 June	Strawberry Teas, 2 – 4pm
Monday 4 July	Chair Zumba with Debbie, 2 – 4pm

HUNTINGDON SOCIAL GROUP

The Comrades club, Godmanchester.

Date	Venue, Activity & Time
Monday 25th April	Fish and Chips lunch, 12 - 2pm
Friday 20th May	Outing to Wicksteed Park, "in the mood"
Monday 27th June	Strawberry Teas, 2 – 4pm
Monday 25th July	Chair Zumba with Debbie, 2 – 4pm

ST IVES SOCIAL GROUP

St Ives Methodist Church Hall, The Waits, St Ives.

Date	Venue, Activity & Time
Wed 20th April	Fish and Chips lunch, 12 - 2pm
Friday 20th May	Outing to Wicksteed Park, "in the mood"
Wed 22nd June	Strawberry Teas, 2 – 4 pm
Wed 20th July	Chair Zumba with Debbie, 2 – 4pm

RAMSEY SOCIAL GROUP

Bury Village Hall, Bury (Ramsey).

Date	Venue, Activity & Time
Monday 11th April	Fish and Chips lunch, 1.15 – 3.15pm
Friday 20th May	Outing to Wicksteed Park, "in the mood"
Monday 13th June	Strawberry Teas, 2 – 4 pm
Monday 11th July	Chair Zumba with Debbie, 2 – 4pm

Society Group Holiday – 26 June-2 July 2016

The group holiday has been booked by 47 members and carers at the Ashton Park Hotel in St Annes, in conjunction with Creative Travel – a company which specialises in holidays for the visually impaired. We are looking forward to excursions on four days to Southport, Cleveleys, Ribble steam railway, Blackpool and Lancaster.

We do hold a waiting list in case there are last minute cancellations so if you are interested in more information please contact Helen at the society office on **01480 453438**.

EQUIPMENT CENTRE

The Society has a well-equipped resource room from which a wide range of talking and visual aids can be demonstrated and purchased. We are able to offer ex demo and second hand items at a reduced price. These include big button telephones, mobile phones, floor lights, portable and hand held electronic magnifiers, talking and easy to see watches – only need a battery!

ST NEOTS LIBRARY - INFORMATION SESSION

Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind is holding an information session, 9-11am at St Neots Library on Thursday 12 May. More information from our office, **01480 453438**

VISION HOTELS

Tinsel 'n' Turkey Packages 2016

Enjoy a pre-festive break at a Vision Hotel. Four nights accommodation, dinner and breakfast, with lunch and entertainment for 3 days. No single supplements. The available dates are from Monday 14, 21, or 28 November and from Monday 5 December. Lauriston Hotel, Weston-super-Mare is **£135 per person** for 4 nights. Cliffden Hotel, Teignmouth is **£135 per person** for 4 nights. Windermere Manor, Lake District is **£129 per person** for 4 nights.

Please contact the hotels for further information, contact numbers below.

THEMED BREAKS AT VISION HOTELS FOR 2016

The Hotels in this group run "Theme Breaks" which are on a full board basis and include entry to all activities and attractions as listed. Early booking is advisable.

Lauriston Hotel, Weston-super-Mare, 01934 620758, email lauriston@visionhotels.co.uk:

- Monday 13 June for 7 nights, Transport theme, includes a visit to West Somerset Steam railway, Somerset canals, a day in Bristol, SS Great Britain, helicopter museum and cars at Haynes International Motor Museum. **Price £595**

- Monday 25 July for 4 nights, low level walking, areas to include Cheddar Gorge, and the Mendip hills, Weston Woods and Exmore National Park. You will need a suitable level of fitness and provide your own walking boots, waterproof jacket and rucksack. **Price £316**
- Monday 1 August for 7 nights, adventure includes Horse riding, Ten Pin bowling, Go-Karting, travelling down a zip wire, explore caves and Sea life centre. **Price £560**
- Monday 26 September for 4 nights, animal fun, includes a visit to Bristol zoo, Puxton Adventure Park and Slimbridge Wildfowl and Wetland Trust. **Price £340.**
- Monday 31 October for 4 nights, Shopaholics will visit Trago mills, Newton Abbot, Clarks outlet Village and Cribbs Causeway shopping mall. **Price £280**

Cliffden Hotel, Teignmouth, 01626 770052, email cliffden@visionhotels.co.uk

- Saturday 7 May for 7 nights, low level walking, up to 7 miles a day with a lunch stop at a local pub or cafe. **Price £497**
- Saturday 14 May for 7 nights, gardening week includes visit to a secret walled garden and trips to two fine gardens in Devon with plenty of hints and tips. **Price £553**
- Saturday 11 June for 7 nights, visit national Trust property. **Price £553.**
- Saturday 17 September for 7 nights, Agatha Christie week, includes the events at The Festival in Torquay. **Price £525**
- Monday 14 November for 4 nights. Arts and crafts, including card making, pottery taster, cupcake decorating and a visit to Cockington craft studios. **Price £260**

Windermere Manor Hotel, 01539 445801, email wndermere@visionhotels.co.uk

Various walking weeks scheduled from May to September. Dates and prices are available from the hotel.

- Monday 24 October for 5 nights, Wildlife and birds. **Price £390**
- Monday 7 November for 4 nights, Castles and lakes, includes a boat trip, lakeside walk, guided tours, castle visits and gardens to explore. **Price £272**
- Saturday 19 November for 7 nights, Poets, music and drama, includes visits to places that inspired poets and poetry. **Price £476**

Singing Weekend for Blind and Partially Sighted People

The 2016 Singing Weekend will take place at the Cliffden Hotel in Teignmouth, Devon, from Thursday 19 May to Monday 23 May (four nights). The first session will be at 10am on the Friday and the final session will end at 12 noon on the Monday. On Friday to Sunday we will sing from 10am to Noon, and 3.30 to 5.30pm, working on short acapella pieces in three or 4 voices.

The Music Director is Christine Richman, who has many years experience working with choirs of Vision impaired singers. The weekend is suitable for beginners and experienced singers, and sighted companions are welcome. The cost will be £300, including all meals except lunch. The Cliffden Hotel is at 20 Dawlish Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 8TE telephone 01626 77 00 52

When booking, please mention that you will be on the Singing Weekend. Further details can be obtained from Mick Marr, email mick.marr@btinternet.com, telephone 0207 602 2475.

NEW PRODUCTS

Just to briefly give you some of the features the New **Boom Box Mini** has:



1. Portable USB audio Player with FM Radio and Voice recorder.
2. English(British)Voice Guidance
3. Make voice recordings directly onto the memory stick
4. Smart Book Mark Feature (automatically remembers the last position played)

5. Plays through built in speakers or headphone.

6. Can be used with mains or rechargeable battery (included).

7. Handheld size, Size: 4.3" X 2.7" X 0.6"

Price: £36.00

Sonic portable USB player, Product code:DH444

Price: £38.40 (inc VAT) £32.00 (ex VAT)

The ex VAT price will apply to blind or partially sighted people, or someone buying on their behalf.

The ultra-portable Sonic USB Memory Stick Player offers superb sound reproduction. Take your favourite books or music with you on holiday. Raised, shaped buttons with tactile markings make it easy to move to a new book, skip through chapters or review the paragraph you have just read. It has four large, yellow tactile control buttons, an extra large volume control dial, which is great if you have limited dexterity, and offers superb sound quality from the two built-in speakers. Whenever you switch the player off or remove a memory stick, the Sonic will remember the exact place and play from there when that stick is next used. The rechargeable battery will last for four hours and there is a mains option. Size: 57mm x 155mm x 55mm (2.25 x 6.1 x 2.17 inches)

The Sonic also has Bluetooth connectivity, so is ready for pairing with your mobile and tablet devices, too. Connecting to the Sonic via Bluetooth does not require any buttons to be pressed on the Sonic, simply search for and select the Sonic on your Bluetooth device (Phone, Tablet etc.) to connect.

Please note: Bluetooth is not useable when a USB stick is inserted. Bluetooth headphones will not work.

NB: Hunts Blind is selling Boom boxes for £25 and Sovereign USB players for £30. We also have a selection of story CD's for loan. Please contact us on 01480 453438.

The Loc8tor Lite DL115 Product code DL116).

The Loc8tor Lite is a black credit card sized electronic locator which can find items such as your keys, purse, mobile phone, remote control or anything else you are prone to misplacing. It comes with two tags so it can find two items however, you can expand the number of items you can locate to four with the additional tags (sold individually.) Audio beeps and a visual display guide you to the location of the tag and associated item. Each homing tag has a different alarm tone for easy identification and has a range of up to 122 metres. The battery (CR2032) is included and has a life of up to a year

Loc8tor will work through doors and walls. It will guide you to your tagged item, to within 1 inch, and the homing tags will enable quick discovery by also emitting an audible beep. Fitting a tag to your keyring is easy, or you

can use the supplied sticky tab to attach it to your remote control, camera, phone or just about anything else. Includes: 2 homing tags, 4 adhesive strips, 1 tag opening tool and 2 key ring loops

Please note: This product is not waterproof. To clean, wipe with a dry cloth. Children must be supervised during use; this is not a toy.

Price: £59.95 extra locator £19.95

Synapptic software for mobile phones Product code: HT355

Synapptic software offers easy-to-follow menus, large high-contrast text, voice control and clear speech feedback making this phone effortless to use. The advantages of Synapptic software is that all its features work in the same easy-to-use way, so once you've mastered one feature, you've mastered them all! Synapptic allows you to stay connected with the latest news and up-to-date with family and friends in a simple, accessible way. Also, get an hour's free training from the supplier with your order so you're ready to go with your device.

Features of Synapptic software include:

Memory Stick Talking Book reader to listen to RNIB talking books or newspapers and music or any other content played from a memory stick, Magnification, Speech, Voice Control, Emails, Websites, Skype, Address Book, Calendar, Alarm Clock, Notepad, Voice Memos, Camera, CCTV Electronic Magnifier, Reading Machine, GPS Where Am I, Calculator, Torch, MP3 Player, Internet Radio, Freeview TV, BBC iPlayer, YouTube, RSS News feeds and much more!

This device includes a feature called Direct Access, which makes it easy to switch back and forth between easy-to-use Synapptic and the advanced features of Android, with full speech feedback.

Price: £228.00 (inc VAT) £190.00 (ex VAT)

5" Samsung phone with Synapptic software Product code: HM60

This comprises of a Samsung Galaxy J5 with Video magnification of 8x. The screen size is 5 inches, corner to corner. The camera is 13 Mega Pixel with flash rear, 5 Mega Pixel front Android OS: Version 5.1.1. The memory is 16GB storage (expandable via SD Card), 1.5GB RAM. Talk time is up to 18 hours with 370 hours standby.

All phones come with a free pay-as-you-go SIM card, mobile number and £5 call, text and Internet credit. If you have an old phone, simply transfer the SIM to the new Synapptic phone - this will instantly transfer your old number, along with any existing credit or contract.

Price: £443 or £403.76 ex VAT

Samsung 9.7 inch tablet installed with easy-to-use Synapptic software. Product code: HT354

This comprises of a Samsung Galaxy Tab A, 9.7" with Video magnification of x12. The camera is 5 Mega Pixel Rear, 2 Mega Pixel Front. The memory is 16GB internal (expandable via sd card to 128GB), 1.5GB RAM. The Screen size is 9.7" (246mm) corner to corner) and the Tablet size is 242.5 x 166.8 x 7.5 mm (9.55 x 6.57 x 0.30 in).

This is great for Emails, Websites, Calendar, Voice Control, Skype, Radio, TV, Talking Book Memory Sticks and much more! It includes a free USB Talking Book adaptor and 2 years of software updates.

Price: £447.00 (inc VAT) £407.77 (ex VAT)

If you already own a tablet or smartphone that works on an Android platform, make it more accessible with the Synapptic software package with easy-to-use menus and functions.

Your existing device must work on an Android platform with version 4 or above active for this software package to work.

Please note: Due to varying specifications for tablets or smartphones, some features will vary slightly. For example, the magnifier will work better if the camera on your phone or tablet has a higher megapixel count, or alternatively the function won't work if the device doesn't have a camera. **Because this is a software only product, this item is non-returnable unless faulty.**

Microwave multi cooker and steamer Product code:DK148

This microwave multi cooker and steamer has a clear lid to see food cooking, a steaming basket and a base. Use the steaming basket as a strainer to make life easy. The dimensions are, Height 170mm x Diameter 220mm. It is freezer proof and dishwasher safe on the top rack.

Warning: This product is for microwave use only and is not suitable for use on or under a direct heat source such as microwave grills, convection microwaves or conventional ovens and hobs.

Handle anything that has been heated with care as the contents and product may be hot. Use hand protection when removing items from the microwave.

Price: £14.95

Wade white ceramic bowl Product code:DK151

This is a modern, vitrified earthenware bowl with a wide rim and high walls, enabling the user to maintain a secure grip whilst reducing spillages.

Please note this product is non-returnable unless faulty for hygiene reasons. This bowl is made from Vitrified Earthenware with added Alumina – this adds to the weight making it more stable and less likely to break if dropped. The 3cm wide rim enables the user to maintain a secure grip and the depth of the bowl reduces spillages. The bowl is dishwasher, microwave and freezer proof and is lead-free.

Price: £17.50

Daylight Magnifying Table Lamp Product code: DH373

This compact folding table magnifying lamp is a compact all-purpose, lightweight magnifier providing 1.75x magnification. The 12W daylight™ tube provides high contrast and accurate colour matching, making it easier and less tiring to see detail clearly. The tube is long lasting and low in energy consumption. Small enough so as not to take up much room, but powerful enough to be great when working on projects that need close-up attention to detail. The dimensions are, 370 x 320 x 13.5mm (14.6 x 12.6 x 0.6 inches). It's also foldable and so it's easy for travelling or taking with you to classes.

Why is daylight™ so good for you?

Comfort: With full spectrum daylight™ technology, your eyes will still be fresh at the end of the day! Reducing eye-strain avoids headaches and red-eyes.

Low heat: Even if you touch the shade or tube of this lamp by accident, you will be safe. All daylight™ bulbs and tubes use the daylight™ low heat technology for ultimate comfort and safety.

Energy saving: All daylight™ bulbs and tubes use 80% less energy and last 10X longer than standard bulbs.

Price: £34.95

PenFriend 2 Labeller Product code: DL110

Simply record your own voice onto the self-adhesive labels and attach them to a wide range of everyday items. When you need to identify the item, simply place the PenFriend onto the item and it will scan and play back your audio recording!

Can be used to label food items, including freezer food with use by dates and cooking instructions. Label items as they go into your shopping basket so you know where to store them when you get home. You could also label the name and genre of DVDS and CDs as well as medicine names and instructions.

Plus you can use the dedicated pack of washable laundry labels so you can co-ordinate your outfit for the day and ensure they are washed correctly by recording a label of washing instructions. (Three packs sold separately, product code DL98, DL97 and DL96, each pack containing 48 labels)

Pen friend comes supplied with 127 mixed size and coloured labels; small round, large round, large square yellow, large square orange. You also receive 3 magnetic recordable discs, ideal for use on tins.

SPECIAL WARNING: Changing the SD card requires a computer. Sighted assistance will be required for this process and for removing or replacing the SD card.

Price: £89.99 (inc VAT) £74.99 (ex VAT)

Bumpons - orange, round Product code:DL15

Orange round bumpons that are raised and have a dome-like shape to touch. Easy to peel and stick, bumpons are often used for marking different equipment around the office or home, such as the settings on a washing machine or microwave buttons. Use the feel of the bumpon or bright orange contrast to highlight and mark everyday items effectively.

Simply peel off the sheet and stick on to the item of your choice, using the self-adhesive backing. 56 bumpons per sheet.

Price: £5.75

Any number are available from Hunts Society for the Blind for 10p each **Handy Tip** from a member cut out and use the discarded plastic to stick on items that are hard to see e.g. the hole on a scent bottle!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

We are delighted to announce this year's quiz night which will include a charity auction. We would like to make this our biggest quiz night yet especially with a view to raising funds for our building project. We would really appreciate you putting a team together of friends, family and neighbours for what promises to be a fun filled and exciting evening.

QUIZ NIGHT & CHARITY AUCTION

Saturday 25th June 2016

Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon

Tickets £5.00 per person.

Teams of up to 6 people

Bring your own picnic and drink

For further details and bookings please call Tanya

0786 320 9081 or 01480 453438

or email info@huntsblind.co.uk

All Welcome!

Our **Annual Draw** will be held on Wednesday 8 June with prizes including £250 cash, fantastic hamper, visual aids and much, much more. We would be extremely grateful for your support in buying/selling draw tickets but as always, if you would prefer not to receive tickets to sell, please let us know.

Our summer **coffee mornings** begin in April (instead of May) this year. Because of the building project – which we hope will be underway fairly

soon – we will be holding the coffee mornings in the foyer of The Commemoration Hall, High Street, Huntingdon.

The coffee mornings will be held 11 am to 2pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 13th April
Wednesday 11th May
Wednesday 8th June
Wednesday 13th July
Wednesday 10th August
Wednesday 14th September

Please join us for coffee and a delicious slice of homemade cake, musical entertainment and a natter. Prizes galore to be won on the tombola and raffle. We hope to see you in April and if you would like to bring along a prize for the tombola or donate a homemade cake we would be very grateful.



Henry Nichols of Dickinson's Real Deal has agreed to join us at our coffee morning on Wednesday 8th June. Henry will be hosting an "ask the expert" session in which people can bring along their antiques and collectables for information and valuation. Hunts Blind will be charging a small fee of £1.00 per item Henry looks at. For more information please contact the Society office.

A quick reminder that we are able to **recycle** quite a wide range of items in order to raise funds for the Society including, mobile phones, printer cartridges and even old cars. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

HSB 200+ Club Results

We're often asked by members and their friends and families how they can support the Society. By having a HSB 200 club share at just £1 per month (£12 per year) you will help to ensure the continued provision of services to visually impaired people living throughout Huntingdonshire plus you have the chance to win a monthly cash prize! Our winners for December, January, February and March were:-

December

1st prize - £125, Jenny Whittick
2nd prize - £60, Pauline Whitehead
3rd prize - £30, Alf Fillingham
4th prize - £20, Mollie Cabbage
5th prize - £15, Norma Flowers

January

1st prize – £25, Lilian Farrow
2nd prize – £15, Jessie Kiddle
3rd prize – £10, Roger Wood

February

1st prize - £25, Margaret Woodhead
2nd prize - £15, Doreen Lewis
3rd prize - £10, Sandra Attewell

March

1st prize - £25, Ron Maith
2nd prize - £15, Ron Maith
3rd prize - £10, Deborah Fletcher

Congratulations to all prize winners and our thanks to members of the 200+ club for your continued support. If you or a friend or neighbour is interested in joining the Society's 200+ club please complete and return the form provided on the back of this newsletter.

Wanted

*A quick reminder that if you or anyone you know has any unwanted mobile phones, bric-a-brac, used stamps or spare wool you wish to donate to the Society please contact Erika in the office on **01480 453438**.*

SIGHT VILLAGE EVENTS 2016

This is an exhibition of technology, equipment and services for people with a visual impairment and for people experiencing age related sight problems. Exhibitors from throughout the world take part.

The Admission is Free but Pre-registration is recommended. For more information please visit www.qacsightvillage.org.uk

Birmingham Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th July, New Bingley Hall, B18 5BE, 10am – 3pm.

London Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd November, Kensington Town Hall, London W8 7NX, 10am – 3pm.

More information about the event will be posted nearer the date but please do call **0121 428 5041** if you have any questions.

IT OPEN DAY

Cam Sight will be running an Information Technology Open Day on **Wednesday 15 June 2016** from 10am – 4pm at Cam Sight, 167 Green End Road, Cambridge CB4 1RW.

Representatives from a number of IT companies and suppliers will be participating and the event is open to everyone. There will be an opportunity to try out new equipment and learn more about devices that could be of help to you, as well as talking books and more.

For further details, please contact Jerry Gilbert on **01223 420033** Extension 19 or email jerry@camsight.org.uk

BLUE BADGE APPLICATIONS

Please note that members are only automatically eligible for a badge if they are over two years old and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- receives the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance;
- receives a Personal Independence Payment for being unable to walk further than 50 metres (a score of 8 points or more under the 'moving around' activity of the mobility component);
- is registered severely sight impaired;
- receives a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement; or e has received a lump sum benefit within tariff levels 1-8 of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme and has been certified as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.

If you require help with your Blue Badge application please contact the Society office - 01480 453438.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE MUSEUMS

Programmes for blind and partially sighted adults

Audio descriptive talks and tours available on the following topics:-

Death on the Nile, Uncovering the afterlife of ancient Egypt, Tuesday 26 April at the Fitzwilliam Museum, handling sessions and touch tours

Antarctica is all Stitched Up! Explore the Polar Museum's interactive textile map of the Antarctic, Wednesday 27 April at the Fitzwilliam Museum

Call 01223 332904 or email education@fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk. Tours are free but booking is essential.

MONTHLY WALKS AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDEN

Walk with Garden Guides to enjoy different plants as the seasons change, from 2.00pm-3.00pm, the first Friday of each month, free but booking essential. Call 01223 331875 or email education@botanic.cam.ac.uk. Guide dogs and companions are welcome to all sessions.

LISTENING BOOKS

Listening Books is a national charity that provides an audiobook library service to children and adults who struggle to read or hold a book due to an illness, disability, mental health issue or learning difficulty such as dyslexia. They currently have funding to offer a number of FREE individual memberships to people living in Cambridgeshire who would find the usual membership fees (ranging from £20 to £45 per year) a barrier to joining the service. Audiobooks are available across three easily accessible formats:

- **MP3 CDs** sent through the post (all postage is included in the membership)
 - **Downloads** from the website which can be transferred to a portable device such as a tablet or smart phone to listen on-the-go
 - **Online streaming** through a Windows PC, Mac or compatible device
- Please phone **020 7407 9417** or email (jcord@listening-books.org.uk) if you would like to refer someone directly for a membership. Individuals can register by visiting the website and ticking the box to apply for a free place: <https://www.listening-books.org.uk/join-us.aspx>. Please be assured that there are no costs for the free memberships which will continue for as long as the member wishes to use the service.

LOCAL TALKING NEWSPAPERS

Huntingdon area and St Neots talking newspapers produce a weekly recording of local news on CD. If you are interested in receiving this please contact the office.

Autumn / Winter 2015 QUIZ ANSWERS

Thank you to all who submitted answers to the Christmas quiz which was won by Maurice Healy who answered them all correctly

1	NAP SOME TIM	Pantomimes
2	OLY GLUE	Yule log
3	TINY VITA	Nativity
4	KING COSTS	Stockings
5	TO HELP RON	North Pole
6	RED ERNIE	Reindeer
7	TED LOVE RUST	Turtle doves
8	STIR INCH GEL	Christingle
9	WYN TRUE ROCK	Turkey crown
10	ANY SAD BRUCE	Brandy sauce
11	ICE MEN SIP	Mince pies
12	SEE TIM LOT	Mistletoe
13	SELL BIG SHEL	Sleigh-bells
14	TRY FISH GAIL	Fairy lights
15	RIDE ON COATS	Decorations
16	ACE MET MIN	Mincemeat
17	NOT EAT PEN	Panettone
18	LISA SAW GIN	Wassailing
19	NEAT CARVED LAND	Advent calendar
20	CASE AND CYN	Candy Canes
21	LAND HOY LIVY	Holly and Ivy
22	PUMP DUNG LID	Plum pudding
23	TESS CHARMS CARRICK	Christmas crackers
24	SLOANS ITCH	St Nicholas
25	CATCH DRAMS SIRS	Christmas cards

Apologies for the typo error on question 15 where an extra I was added to 'RIDE'.

HSB 200+CLUB

This is a scheme to raise funds for Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind and for us to give all our supporters the chance to win money prizes every month.

For the annual subscription of £12 per share you will be entered in twelve monthly draws and grand draws twice a year. Last year we raised over £1200 for the society and gave equal amounts in prize money.

If you would like to join please complete the form below and enclose payment or come and visit us at the shop/office.

.....
Please complete and return to Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind at: 8, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3PE.

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel No

In the event we are unable to contact you please give the name of a beneficiaryTel No.....

I wish to apply for.....shares, at £12 per year, in the 200+club

I enclose £.....cheque/cash, payable to Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind.

Signed.....Date.....

Office Use only

200+ Club number issued

Date of first draw

Date of reminder

SPRING QUIZ

As the Queen celebrates her 90th birthday we have chosen a royal theme to these 20 anagrams of royal residences. There is a prize for the winning entry. Entries need to be returned to the office by **1ST June 2016**

1	SAM CALL ALBERTO	
2	MASON HUGHES DRAIN	
3	AGILE BUCK CHAPMAN	
4	LOST EDWIN'S CAR	
5	BELLA CLOUGH IS SHORT	
6	GOOD ANGLIA CREW	
7	SUE ENOCH CLARE	
8	EVER SO HIGH HUGO	
9	KIM A STAR	
10	PEN IN STOCK ANGELA	
11	THE GOODLY EARL	
12	ENSURE WHO	
13	MAP A CASTLE JESS	
14	SHOP BAG KART	
15	GREAT BACK MOP	
16	RUFUS HIDE SOME	
17	TEST COOL-HEADED HUGH	
18	DAPHNE GOLD MEDAL	
19	MEAL COST FAY	
20	ALOOF CLEO DASH YOUR HOPE	

Name.....

Contact Number.....