

# Eye Chat Weekly.

Issue 326– Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025



Welcome to this week's quick update giving you news, views and information. Contact Alex or Ananché in the office, to offer us your article, or email [admin@buryblindsociety.org](mailto:admin@buryblindsociety.org)

Welcome back, everyone! Happy New Year! We've got an exciting 2025 ahead, and look forward to meeting up again during the year.

**New Year, New Look!** If you haven't visited the Centre yet, you're in for a delightful surprise! Why not pop by and see the redecoration? We'd really like your views on the changes. The concept is a result of the consultation with all stakeholders back in 2023 so we hope we've interpreted 'your wish list' correctly! Let us know.

**User Forum:** A big thank you to everyone who managed to attend January's User Forum. Your input and participation are always greatly appreciated! The forum provides an opportunity for the Society to update on news and developments, and listen to your ideas and views. We were delighted to hear that you still feel this forum is relevant, although we did discuss other methods of ensuring we are a 'user-led' organisation. Full notes of the meeting are available but an update will also be in the forthcoming January VI Bulletin.

At the User Forum we gave an update on the fantastic total raised through our Christmas Gift wrapping. Thanks to all the wonderful efforts of our volunteer wrappers, and of course, the amazing customers, £2,050.00 was raised. All this will go directly to continue providing support for people living with sight loss.

**First Fundraising Events Planning** session of the year this coming Monday 13<sup>th</sup>, 11.00am at the Centre. If you have any thoughts or ideas for fundraising, why not let us know? You are welcome to come along, email [jill.logan@buryblindsociety.org](mailto:jill.logan@buryblindsociety.org) or give us a call with your thoughts. Don't worry if you can't make it – we've got a whole year to plan so plenty of scope! On the subject of fundraising, do you have any unwanted scarves or toiletries? We'd be happy to accept for our Tombola! Thanks.

**Don't despair! This week was Gary's Quiz Afternoon**, but, as it was also our first week open, Gary has kindly agreed to provide another quiz for next Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January. So, come along and get those brain cells working again after the Christmas festivities! The fun starts at 1.00pm-2.30pm with refreshments provided too!

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**First Book Club session of the Year. Saturday, 18th January, 11.00am-12.30pm.** We're exploring timeless classics for the next few sessions—perfect for rediscovering the stories that have stood the test of time. Don't miss the chance to join in on some great conversations!

**BBS Cricket Club Returns! Thursday, 23rd January, 1:30pm to 2:30pm** at the PA Cricket Club: Following the success of our taster session, cricket is back! If you need a lift from the Blind Society office, please let Will know in advance. Sessions are £2.00 per person. Whether you're a seasoned player or just want to try something new, we'd love to see you there!

**BBS On Tour** – remember the wonderful Musical Evening at The Met celebrating our Centenary? Well, back by popular demand, we putting on another evening of entertainment. Tickets are already available direct from The Met, price £11.00 for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm-10.30pm. This time we are having a slightly more 'intimate affair' and performing in The Box Theatre – easy access as it's on the ground floor so no stairs! Spread the word. It promises to be a great night.

**Speaking of The Met** – if you are interested in going along to any other sessions, we have a list available in the office. There are some great acts on throughout January. Contact the office for more details.

## **This week in the Centre & surround:**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>:** 10am-12pm: Drop In back open along with MEGs group in the Lounge.

1.15pm-2.30pm – Fun Music Group.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>:** Centre open for appointments only. Phoenix Foot Clinic appointments available from 9.30am-3.00pm.

10 Pin Bowling. Meet at the Centre at 10.30am or at the Hollywood Bowling at 11.00am. Please confirm your attendance, either by the WhatsApp Group or ring the Centre by Monday to ensure a Volunteer Buddy, Thanks.

1.30pm at The Burrs – Community Health Walk. Ring office to book.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>:** LVA Clinic in Chatterton Room.

10.30am-12.00pm, Drop In

1:30pm - 3:00pm: Second Macular Support Group meeting.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>:** 10.30am: Thursday Fun with Drama with Tracey and Mags. 1.00pm: Gary's Quiz Afternoon.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>:** Friday lunch club, 11.30am-2.00pm- Join Mags for homemade soup and sandwiches – perfect in this cold weather.