



Eye Chat Weekly.

Issue 413 – Friday 16th October 2026

Welcome to this week's quick update, bringing you news, views and useful information. If you have an article to share, please contact Jo or Jill in the office, or email admin@buryblindsociety.org.

User Forum - a few key highlights:

We were delighted to welcome Helen Webster of TfGM back with an update on the Metrolink and Bus Interchange revamp. The two-phase programme will begin with the Metrolink. Helen will provide a bullet-point schedule for future Eye Chat editions. If work affects tram users, we will also share updates in the weekly Eye Chat and on our website. Work is expected to begin in mid-November and finish by December 2027, starting with the new access bridge and causing no obvious disruption to the tram station. Once complete, there will be three accessible lifts and 24/7 CCTV. We will share more details when Helen's report arrives.

Drum roll: An amazing 311 miles were completed in the Vision 50 challenge! We raised a brilliant £437 from the Bury 10K and £593.22 from the cycling—a fantastic total of £1,030.22. Huge thanks to Michael, Peter and everyone who took part, with special thanks to the members and staff of PureGym, Tesco Bury, the Millgate and Asda Pilsworth for their support.

Asda Pilsworth. At our recent AGM, Asda Community Champion Jill Brady presented us with a £500 cheque. We are incredibly grateful for their support. The funding will help clients and friends create a performance showcasing their group activities at our BBS On Tour event. User Forum members suggested continuing chair-based Tai Chi, with a demonstration, and restarting the Drama Group with a tutor. Other ideas will be shared with our groups.

Following the discussion, client Jixie Shakespeare has offered to create a charity song using our new trading name, Bury Sight Support. Jixie would love contributions from members, volunteers and families about what the Society means to you—anything from a single word or phrase to a fuller description. The ideas will be brought together using AI to create a song for next year's BBS On Tour event. So, get your thinking caps on! Cards will be available and displayed on a Christmas tree. The deadline is the end of November.

Well Done Tina!

We are incredibly proud of our client Tina following her fantastic success at the World Sailing Inclusion Championships in Portugal! Tina and her team won Bronze for third overall and Gold for first place in her sight category,

while GBR was named Overall Team of the Year. Tina says she is “thrilled to bits and worn out”—and we can see why! Huge congratulations from everyone at Bury Blind Society. We can’t wait to see your medals, Tina—you’re an absolute star!

Hearing & Sight Support: Don’t miss our new Information Hub for people with hearing and sight difficulties on Monday 19th October, 10.30am–12pm. Colleagues from Bolton & Bury Deaf Society, Audiology and Bury Council Hearing Service will join us, along with Claire Yardley from HMR Circle, who will update us on local digital support. No need to book—just drop in. Everyone is welcome.

Activities at the Centre this week – 19th to 23rd October

Monday: Centre open 10am–4pm

- **10.30am–12pm:** Monday Morning Drop incl Information Hub for Hearing & Sight Support
- **1.30pm–3pm:** Music Group with Mags.
- **6pm–8.30pm:** Showdown training.

Tuesday: Centre closed – appointments only

- **Phoenix Footcare** – Please book an appointment with Dougie through the office.
- **11am:** Ten Pin Bowling at Hollywood Bowl. Meet there at 11am or at the Centre at 10.30am.

Wednesday: Centre open 10am–4pm

- **9am–3pm:** Low Vision Aid Clinic – appointments only.
- **10.30am–12pm:** Breakfast Drop-In
- **1.30pm–3pm:** Macular Group

Thursday: Centre open 10am–4pm

- **10.30am–12pm:** Crossword Club.
- **1.30pm–3pm:** Age UK Bury Cluster Group – tea and chatter.
- **6pm–8.30pm:** Showdown open play.

Friday: Centre open 10am–4pm

- **11.30am–2pm: Lunch Club:** Jacket Potato with either Tuna Mayo or Cheese & Beans (with salad) and Chocolate Cake for pudding.
- **1.30pm: Walk & Talk** – a gentle 15–20-minute walk around the block. Meet at the Centre.

Please contact the Centre to book any BBS activities or to ask for further information.