Eye Chat Weekly.

Issue 417 – Friday 13th November 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.

This Week's News:

Hearing & Sight Loss Support Hub 10.30am-12pm at The Centre: All welcome to come along to our second session. This month we have Kay Kelly from the Bolton & Bury Deaf Society to talk about making the most of your Sensory Loss. Representatives from Hearing and Sight support will be around to answer your questions too.

Make Yourself Heard on Bus Accessibility. Greater Manchester is consulting on its first draft Bus Network Accessibility Plan from 1 December to 8 January. It covers the whole Bee Network bus journey, from planning and using bus stops to boarding, changing services and getting help during disruption. You can respond online, in print or by telephone, with a BSL summary and the option to reply by BSL video. A link will follow when the consultation launches.

Explore the Irwell Sculpture Trail. Free guided walks on Friday mornings, starting at 9.30am and covering about 4 miles. Dates: Bury, 20 November (starting at Burrs Country Park); Radcliffe, 27 November; Whitefield, 4 December; Ramsbottom, 11 December. Booking and route details: https://www.thesunnywoodproject.co.uk/irwell-sculpture-trail

Contribute to the Discussion on the Future of Mill Gate. Bruntwood and Bury Council are sharing plans for the first stage of Mill Gate's regeneration, including new public spaces, improved shopping streets and better connections across the town centre. A planning application is due in the coming weeks. Meet the team and ask questions at a consultation event on Saturday 21 November, 10am to 3pm, in Schorndorf Square, outside TJ Hughes. Changes to public spaces matter to people with sight loss, so please share your views on crossings, paving, seating, lighting and signage. Comment online at https://futuremillgatebury.co.uk/ or find details at https://millgatebury.co.uk/events/event/help-shape-the-next-chapter-for-mill-gate

A Christmas story from one of our own

We're delighted to share that Ananché Jeffrey, has written and illustrated a children's book, *Lola the Guide Dog Saves Christmas*. The story is inspired by Ananche's own guide dog, Lola. It would make a lovely festive read for

children and a thoughtful gift for family and friends. You can find the book on Amazon: https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/106699370X theharris

Christmas at the Centre

Christmas Broadsheet. If you haven't had your copy listing all our upcoming events, please pick one up at the Centre. Geoff Kenyon Festive Music. Wednesday 2 December, 1pm to 3pm, at the Masonic Hall. Tickets £5 from Reception, including refreshments. Annual Christmas Raffle. You could win £100 cash, plus many other prizes. Can you help sell tickets? Ask a member of staff.

Activities This Week, 16 to 20 November

Monday (Centre open 10am to 4pm)

- **10.30am to 12pm:** Monday Morning Drop In
- **10.30am to 12pm:** Sight and Hearing Hub
- **1.30pm to 2.45pm:** Music Group
- **6pm to 8.30pm:** Showdown training

Tuesday (Centre closed, appointments only)

- Phoenix Footcare: book 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 to 4pm)

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

Thursday (Centre open 10am to 4pm)

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

Friday (Centre open 10am to 4pm)

- **11.30am to 2pm:** Friday Lunch, soup and a sandwich
- **1.30pm:** Walk and Talk, a gentle 15 to 20-minute walk around our Christmas Fair

Saturday 21 November

- **11am to 12.30pm:** Book Club at the Centre. This month's book is Wish You Well by David Baldacci.

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