Eye Chat Weekly.

Issue 418 – Friday 20th 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:

Join us at A Cracking Christmas Market on Sunday 22nd November, 10am to 4pm at St John's Church, Kirklees Street, Tottington! 🎄 Come and find us at our craft stall, where you can browse handmade gifts and have a friendly chat. With art, crafts, knits, scents and more, plus the café open for a cuppa, it's a lovely way to start your Christmas shopping. Entry is free, and we'd love to see you there!

BBS Tech Talk - Technology drop-in sessions

If you are interested in hearing about how technology can help you to live more independently or simply make some tasks a little easier to manage, then you might be interested in our new series of Tech Talk sessions here at the Centre. It doesn't matter if you don't know anything about technology if you are a novice or an expert everyone is welcome to come along to share and learn.

Our first session will take place on Friday 27 November, 10 to 11.30am, with Chris Garry from the Digital Team at Henshaws. The session will provide the perfect opportunity for people to talk about the latest news and information around Technology, Apps, accessibility features, and apps designed for people with Sight Loss.

Are you an unpaid carer affected by sight loss?

Bury Blind Society, in partnership with Creative Living Centre, is setting up a new peer support group for carers, and we want you to help shape it. Whether you care for someone who is living with sight loss, or you live with sight loss yourself and care for someone else, we'd love you to join our small, friendly focus group. Tell us what you'd like the group to cover, when and where it should take place, and how it can be run so it works and is accessible for you. To register your interest, email your name and contact details to georgia.mulvaney@creativelivingcentre.org.uk. Prefer to talk? Call Creative Living Centre on 0161 696 7501 or Bury Society for Blind and Partially Sighted People on 0161 763 7014. Need this information in another format, such as large print? Just ask!

Free Bus Travel for Young People Aged 11–16

From January 2027, secondary school-aged children will be able to enjoy unlimited free travel on Bee Network buses through the new Our Pass 11-

16 scheme, potentially saving families up to £500 per child each year. Applications open on Tuesday 8 December 2026, with free travel starting on 4 January 2027. If your child already has an IGO card and is eligible, it will automatically transfer to the new scheme, so no application will be needed. For details on eligibility and how to apply, visit beenetwork.com/11-16.

100 Club Winners: This month's winning no's are: 385: £108.90, 515: £54.45 and 93: £18.15. A great way to help raise funds and be in with a chance to win. Numbers are just £1. Contact the office for further information.

Christmas at the Centre
Limited spaces for the Christmas Buffet and Lunch, book now to avoid disappointment

Activities This Week, 23rd to 27th November
Monday (Centre open 10am to 4pm)

- **10.30am to 12pm:** Monday Morning Drop In
- **1.30pm to 2.45pm:** Festive Music Social with mince pies featuring the fantastic Steve
- **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:** Glaucoma Group

Thursday (Centre open 10am to 4pm)

- **10.30am to 12pm:** Drop In Session
- **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)

- **10.00am to 11.30am:** Henshaws Tech Drop In Session
- **11.30am to 2pm:** St Andrews Day Lunch Special: Starter Potato and Sausage Scones with Poached Egg, Main: Haggis, Neeps, Colcannon & Gravy, Desert: Cranachan
- **1.30pm:** Walk and Talk, a gentle 15 to 20-minute walk.

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