



# **SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE BLIND SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 214140  
[WWW.blind-society.org.uk](http://WWW.blind-society.org.uk)



Helpline: Grantham Office 01476 592775

**Autumn 2018**

**ISSUE 47**

**Welcome to the forty-seventh issue of the South Lincolnshire Blind Society Newsletter, inside this issue you will find;**

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## **Welcome and update from the Chief Executive Officer**

A new look for the Executive Committee, the next 100 years.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018 our Annual General Meeting took place at 14, Finkin Street, Grantham where we had 9 new members appointed with 6 of those being visually impaired. The Society has never had more service users represented on our governing body. With the other new members there will be some exciting new developments over the coming months and years that is hoped will bring about a revitalisation of our Society. So it is a case of watch this space for things to happen.

We warmly welcome the following new people as Executive Committee members:

Geoffrey Caunt - President  
Nigel Brocklebank – Chairman  
Carolyn Brocklebank  
Maureen Caunt  
Trevor Foss  
Barry Summerfield  
Peter Weatherall  
Janet Watson  
Patricia Turner

### **MOST WANTED!!!!**

The Executive Committee is in need of a Treasurer so if anyone would like to volunteer or knows of anyone who might like to offer their services we would love to hear from them. You may contact either the Chairman or the Chief Executive for an informal chat on 01476 592775 or 07855491032.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The new Executive Committee, staff and some volunteers are currently working very hard in the background to bring about a revitalisation of our Boston Office and Resource Centre which has been unmanned for a little while.

We are exploring all avenues with grant making organisations to bring in the required funding for us to make some much needed changes to the building in George Street that will make it much more suitable for people to meet and enjoy activities.

It has always been the objective of the Society to have this facility fully functional and hopefully on a full time basis. I will keep our members and service users updated as things hopefully develop over the coming months.

In the meantime, we are actively looking for volunteers and or service users who would be prepared to help out at the George Street Centre so that we may look to begin the process of getting people back into the centre on a regular basis.

If you or any of your family or friends would like to offer their support and join our super team, please contact us on 01476 592775 and speak to Susan, we would love to hear back from as many people as possible.

This is an opportunity for local people to become more involved in this much needed facility but we are very much aware that we cannot do it alone.

Just a note here to mention that you can still use the Boston office telephone number and you will get straight through to our Grantham office as all calls have been re directed so we don't miss any calls. Our Grantham Centre continues to provide lots of activities supported by many great volunteers and I believe there will be more about that further on in this newsletter.

My thanks to all of those who give their support, time and energy to our Society, it is very much appreciated.

Malcolm Swinburn  
Chief Executive

## **Message from South Kesteven District Council**

Release Date: 20 August 2018

### **Last chance to ensure you are eligible to vote**

Reminder letters encouraging people to respond to South Kesteven's annual voter registration canvass are landing on doormats across the district.

Up to a third of the 64,000 households involved have yet to respond, despite the fact that filling in and returning the form is a legal requirement.

The forms can either be returned in the pre-paid envelope provided by the district Council, online, by telephone or by text.

Local elections are less than nine months away and the canvass helps spot people not on the electoral register, so they can be encouraged to sign up and take part in the vote to decide all 56 district council seats in May next year.

All households are asked to reply even if there are no changes to be made to the information, as this will ensure the register is up to date. Electoral Registration Officer Aidan Rave said: "The annual canvass is an opportunity for people to easily check whether they're registered. It takes only a few minutes, so I urge everyone to do so as soon as they receive it."

Residents who have any questions can contact the elections team at SKDC on **01476 40 60 80** or email [elections@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:elections@southkesteven.gov.uk) or visit [www.southkesteven.gov.uk/annualcanvass](http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/annualcanvass)

#### *Notes to editors*

1. The electoral register lists the names and addresses of everyone registered to vote in public elections. The register is used for electoral purposes, such as making sure only eligible people can vote. It is also used for other limited purposes specified in law, such as: detecting crime (eg fraud), calling people for jury service or checking credit applications.

2. The open register is an extract of the electoral register, but is not used for elections. It can be purchased by any person, company or

organisation. For example, it is used by businesses and charities to confirm name and address details. Your name and address will be included in the open register unless you ask for them to be removed. Removing your details from the open register does not affect your right to vote.

3. To be eligible to register to vote in England a person must be:

- Aged 16 or over (a person may register to vote at 16, but may not vote until they are 18)
- A British or qualifying Commonwealth citizen who has leave to enter and remain in the UK or does not require such leave.
- A citizen of the Republic of Ireland or other European Union (EU) member state.

4. British citizens, Irish citizens and qualifying citizens of Commonwealth countries (including Cyprus and Malta), as well as citizens of other EU member states can vote in local government elections and Police and Crime Commissioner elections in England and Wales.

5. Full details of the Electoral Commission's research on the electoral registers can be found [here](#).

**For media enquiries:**

Email the SKDC communications team at [pr@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:pr@southkesteven.gov.uk) or phone 01476 406498 or 406440

**Congratulations!**

A huge **CONGRATULATION** to one of our members Pat Turner for coming **FIRST** in her division in blind target shooting. Pat Joined the Grantham Target Shooting group last year having never held an air rifle before. This woman is an inspiration to us all and with an aim like that; she is not somebody to be messed with!

The Target shooting group meets at The Harrowby Lane Methodist Church Grantham every Friday at 7pm. Contact Juan Cottier for more information on 07403 971505 or e mail [GranthamTSC@outlook.com](mailto:GranthamTSC@outlook.com) or check their Facebook page, Grantham Target Shooting Club.

## 100 years ago. A poem by Carolyn Brocklebank

**1918**

It was one hundred years ago,  
George V was on the throne,  
The nation saw the end of war  
And POW's were heading home.  
Women over 30 got the vote,  
'Return of the Soldier' Rebecca West wrote,  
The 'Penny Post' ended  
As postage costs rose,  
Off the peg choices  
For buying new clothes,  
Enrico Caruso sang 'Over There',  
Stonehenge donated for the nation to share,  
Wilfred Owen died  
And Spike Milligan was born,  
Off with old boots  
As stylish shoes were now worn,  
Readers could take the first 'Sunday Express',  
On April the 1<sup>st</sup>  
Merged the new 'RAF',  
Lloyd George was PM  
A 'Liberal' throughout,  
For music, Al Johnson and 'Jazz' was about,  
So 1918 was a year to recall  
When the end of the war

**WAS THE ONE TO END ALL!!**

## Have you heard of Giving Tuesday??

Celebrated on the Tuesday following Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving where charities, individuals and companies join together to share commitments, rally for their favourite causes and do good stuff for charity.

Since its launch in the US in 2012, Giving Tuesday has grown to be a truly global phenomenon and there are now official campaigns in 46 countries, with support on the day extending to over 70 countries last year.

Here in the UK, Giving Tuesday is powered by CAF and we're proud to be part of something truly amazing. Our role is to spread the word and encourage more charities, individuals and companies to get involved.

SLBS are taking part!

Come and join us for a **Touch N Tune quiz** on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November from 10am -12pm.

Our quiz will involve feeling items within a sealed box and trying to recognize what they are... we promise nothing horrible.... And listening to different recorded sounds to try and identify them. We will be having teams of two and the answers will need to be written down by one team member.

Come and Join us we are sure to have plenty of oohs, ahhs, laughs and squeals.... As well as plenty of tea/coffee and cake!

£3 per person

At 14 Finkin Street, Grantham, Lincs, NG31 9UW, please call us on 01476 592775 to book your quiz chair.

## **Diabetes UK peer sessions**

Diabetes UK have kindly extended an invitation for us to attend some of their peer group sessions that they will be holding in Grantham. They are open to anybody that may suffer from the condition, you may also invite friends and family. The sessions will cover a range of topics including; how to manage diabetes, the different types of medication and how to deal with their side effects, getting active, how to get the best care, and travelling with diabetes.

The sessions will take place at the Jubilee Life Church in Grantham on:

- 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 2pm-4pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm-4pm

## **New NHS Dentist**

A new NHS dentist on its way to Spalding is looking forward to helping patients 365 days a year, including Christmas Day.

JDSP Dental is looking to open at 14-16 Winsover Road, a building previously occupied by free newspaper The Voice, which quit the premises for a base on the outskirts of town.

Dr Jimmey Palahey, a director with JDSP Dental (Treeline Dental Care), said: "We are very excited to be given the opportunity to provide high quality NHS dental care in Spalding and look forward to serving the local community.

"Our company was started in 2007 and our directors have a combined experience of over 25 years in the dental sector. Over this period we have listened very carefully to our patients and always aimed to ensure that we are meeting their needs.

“Our last patient survey highlighted that 100 per cent of patients would recommend us to their friends and family, and we are very keen to continue this trend.

“I can confirm that we will be accessible 365 days per year .... even Christmas Day ... with a prize available for the best Christmas jumper!”

A planning application for a change of use of the Winsover Road building has been submitted to South Holland District Council.

It reveals the business will employ the equivalent of seven full-time staff and Dr Palahey says they will be recruiting shortly for clinical and non-clinical posts.

The surgery is due to open in January.

At the moment JDSP is asking prospective patients to send an email to: [newpatient@treelinedentalcare.co.uk](mailto:newpatient@treelinedentalcare.co.uk)

Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, the last time you visited a dentist and say how you heard about JDSP.

In early September, JDSP aims to have a form for new registrations on its website and a dedicated phone line, which will be advertised.

For regular updates, the public can like JDSP’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/treelinedentalcare](http://www.facebook.com/treelinedentalcare)

JDSP are also opening surgeries in Boston, Sleaford and Lincoln.

As revealed in our July story, Community Dental Services CIC are due to run NHS dental services at Spalding’s Johnson Community Hospital from January.

## **Top tips to block out cold callers with these nifty tricks!**

You can put an end to the blight of nuisance calls with the latest technology. Households were bombarded with 3.9 billion of these calls and text messages last year – the equivalent of 7,420 every minute according to communications watchdog Ofcom. To fight back register your phone number with the Telephone Preference Service online at [tpsonline.org.uk](http://tpsonline.org.uk) or by calling 0345 070 0707. Once your number is on this list, it is illegal for companies to cold call you, and thanks to a rule change this month, firms chasing PPI or personal injury claims now need to have your express permission before they can call you.

But the rules don't apply to call centres based abroad and won't deter fraudsters who are breaking the law anyway. If you are with BT, you can sign up for BT Protect, a free service which will block calls from any number on a list of known nuisance callers. Sky customers can sign up for its free talk shield service and talktalk offers a similar option, Callsafe.

You could also buy a TrueCall gadget, a call blocker, which plugs in between your phone and the wall socket.

It also intercepts calls to request that the caller states their name before being put through. It costs about £100 from [truecall.co.uk](http://truecall.co.uk) or call 0800 0 336 330.

You can buy a phone with built – in call screening. Try a BT Decor 2600 Premium Nuisance Call Blocker for £34.99 or download the free TPS Protect app to block nuisance calls on your smartphone.

– Article taken from Daily mail September 2018.

## **Pre loved sale give us a call 01476 592775 and make an offer.**

We have a number of pre-loved items for sale

- Big button BT phones

- Talking Kitchen scales
- Talking bathroom scales
- Boom box
- Plex talk Daisy players
- Symbol canes
- Weight bearing white sticks
- Writing guides
- Braille paper

All items sold as seen and all donations to the charity.

### **For Sale by private arrangement.**

Magna linc Vision CCTV please contact

James.mhall@yahoo.co.uk

### **Marks Radio show.**

Mark Ellis has been telling us about his love of radio and that he has his own radio show. Marks show is on Treehouse Radio and he has a slot on Thursdays. Mark would like to invite you to contact him and ask for a request. He plays classic rock and you can tweet mark on, @prc320 or you can send him an e mail, [mark@treehouseradio.com](mailto:mark@treehouseradio.com).

Keep up the good work Mark it's a great show.

### **SLBS Facebook page**

It's great to see the power of facebook at work and so many of our service users and volunteers tuning in and liking our pages content, commenting on articles and news from around not just our county but the world that is pertinent to people with sight loss their families and carers too.

For us it's a really quick way of sharing up to date information with you and encouraging you to connect with us and other service users too. We recently tested how far our posts can travel.

Carolyn one of our new Trustees loves to write poetry and as a test, we put one of her poems on our facebook site and shared it with three other national eye condition groups.

Within two days, Carolyn's poem had received 7,000+ likes and had been shared as far as California in the USA.

If you write poems or have any information on things happening in your town or village that you would like to share with others who have sight loss you could e-mail it to [Susans@blind-society.org.uk](mailto:Susans@blind-society.org.uk).

You can help us connect our local community and grow our sight loss family in Lincolnshire.

### **Cross Links**

Cross Links is a different Christian event stories magazine. It is a free talking Christian magazine which lists events in local churches. If anyone is interested in receiving this magazine, please contact us on 01476 592775 and we will give you the contact details.

### **Did You know about the National Accessible Library?**

We are a free online library for visually impaired readers. You can join our library now and start accessing our books straight away.

Our library is for people who are unable to enjoy reading a printed book because they are blind, visually impaired, have print blindness due to dyslexia or are physically impaired.

All our books are available in a variety of formats, including Microsoft Word, plain text and Braille. The books in Microsoft Word format are marked up in order to make it as easy as possible to customise the

book to suit the way you want to read them. We continue to add books to our library all the time, on every subject.

<http://www.accessiblelibrary.org.uk>

## **200 Club Winners**

### **June**

1<sup>st</sup> prize £100 Jennifer Hardy, Grantham  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize £50 Alan Saunby, Lincoln  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize £30 Jenny Forth, Crowland

### **July**

1<sup>st</sup> prize £100 Geoffrey Gaimster, Spalding  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize £50 Pam McSpadyen, Boston  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize £30 Reginald Priestley, Boston

### **August**

1<sup>st</sup> prize £150 Janet Hixon, Holbeach  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize £100 Michelle Earth, Spalding  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize £70 Phillip Richards, Grantham

**Well done to all our winners and thank you for your support!**

**JOIN US – it could be you!**

You will find enclosed with this newsletter a form for you to join the 200 club 2018/2019. Our new year starts with the first draw at the end of October 2018. So make sure you complete your application and get it back to us in time for the draw.

Each share cost only £10.00 and you have twelve chances to win at the end of each month throughout the year.

Shares are available for you to purchase for family and friends and we think it is extremely good value where else can you get a gift for only £10.00 that will last a whole year!

If you have family and friends and you would like to purchase a share as a gift for them please complete the form enclosed or if you would like assistance they can be completed over the phone by calling 01476 592775 and you can send your payment in the post in the freepost envelope provided. Please make Cheques or postal orders payable to South Lincolnshire Blind Society. Good luck it could be YOU!

### **FUNdraising and Awareness raising events**

A huge thank you must be said to everyone who has helped us at our previous store collections, awareness raising events and bag packing events; with your help, we have raised an incredible £2423.82 this year!

Raising funds is a big part of our work but equally important is the role of promoting the services that the charity provides to people who may be struggling with sight issues and don't know where to turn.

Our volunteers and particularly our service users who have volunteered to help us at these events are best placed to tell people what we do and we are very grateful to the growing numbers of you helping promote our work.

We have quite a few of fundraising/ awareness raising events booked for the upcoming months so if you would like to volunteer, join us and be a part of our winning team then please let us know.

Just a couple of hours or so promoting the work the Society does for and on behalf of visually impaired people really does make a difference and your help would be so much appreciated.

If you would like to know more about how you can come along and be a part of our fantastic team of Ambassadors please give Eve a call on 01476 592775 to add your name to our list of volunteers.

Future Store Collections;

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October –Morrisons, Stamford

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Downtown, Grantham

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Asda, Grantham

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Isaac Newton Centre, Grantham

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Sainsburys, Stamford

### **Come and join us to make your own decorative wreath or table arrangement**

**It is that time of year again....**

After the wonderful success of last year's Christmas Wreath making Sue from Flowers by Holland in Grantham has kindly agreed to join us again.

All materials and foliage will be supplied to make the wreath but feel free to bring a candle or two if you would like to turn your wreath into a table decoration.

Some of those made last year lasted for a couple of months and some service users decided to use them to commemorate a loved one's life making it really personal.

The wreath making will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 12pm.

£10 per person, which will include tea/coffee and delicious mince pies.

Please contact us on 01476 592775 to book your place and send payment by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Come and Join us!

Gentlemen, do not be shy, this is fun for everyone young or old, and men or woman so come along and show the ladies what men can do we had some fine examples from the men last year.

### **Daytime Christmas Carol Concert**

We are again holding our annual Christmas Carol Concert. This year we are lucky enough to hold our Concert in St Wulframs Church, Grantham, NG31 6RR. The design of the church is built from local limestone and the Church's chief feature is the slender crocketed spire which stands 282.5 feet (86.1 m) high.

This is a wonderful Church and will mean we have plenty of space for everyone who wishes to join us. This year we will not only be joined by The National School Choir but also a local Ukuele Band will be performing. We will have a selection of Christmas songs, some lovely mince pies, a raffle and plenty of Christmas Cheer.

Our Carol Concert will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 10am until 12pm. £3.00 per person.

Please call us on 01476 592775 to book your place for some Christmas cheer!!

We have tried very hard to arrange transport from all areas to Grantham so as many of you can join us as possible. Unfortunately we have only managed to arrange transport from Sleaford. The cost would be £4.00 per person and places are limited so please contact the office on 01476 592775 to let us know if you are interested in the transport and want to join us. Thank you.

**Bring a friend and join us for a spectacular evening of song on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at St Wulframs Church Grantham.**

We are very excited to tell you that The Famous Rock Choir and U3A Choir and our local ladies choir called 'Invoice' are putting their vocal chords to good use and giving up an evening to raise funds for South Lincolnshire Blind Society.

The event will take place at St Wulframs Church Grantham on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7pm.

Tickets will be on sale to the public and we would like to encourage as many service users, volunteers and friends to join us for what promises to be a fabulous evening in our beautiful church in Grantham.

Tickets will be £10.00 each and all proceeds will be used to help us to continue to provide charitable services across our area.

We do hope that you will encourage family and friends to come, join us, and help us continue our work supporting local people to live well with sight loss.

We hope to have a small Christmas market place with local gifts and crafts on sale for you to browse and support local independent business too.

A raffle will be held on the night to add to the fun - you have to be in it to win it!

You can book your tickets by calling the helpline 01476 592775.

Our volunteers and staff will be on hand so please encourage family members, friends, neighbours to come and join us for a spectacular night to get you in the mood for the festivities.

## **2019 Large Print Calendar and diaries.**

It's time to put in your orders for the 2019 large print black on yellow SLBS Calendar at £4.00 each.

We are also taking orders for the Large Print diaries:

Large Print pocket diary £5.69,

Large Print A5 desk diary for £7.79

A4 Large Print diary at £6.75

If you would like to order one please call our helpline on **01476**

**592775** and leave your name, telephone number and your order and once stock is in we will dispatch your goods hopefully in good time to avoid the Christmas post rush!

## **Christmas Raffle tickets.**

Inside with this newsletter you will find some raffle tickets for our Big Christmas raffle along with a return envelope for any completed stubs and cheque or postal order made payable to South Lincolnshire Blind Society or unwanted raffle tickets. There are some great prizes again this year;

First prize- £100

Second prize- £50

Third Prize- Hamper of Christmas goodies

Fourth Prize- Bottle of Whiskey

Fifth Prize- Deluxe Christmas Cake

Car cleaning kits, bottles of spirits, gift baskets girls' night in kit, boys night in gift basket, tea for two and much more.

Please return stubs or unwanted raffle tickets by 12<sup>th</sup> December in the freepost envelope provided.

The draw will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

We are very grateful for your help and every penny will be ploughed back in to providing actives and services we know make a difference to people's lives.

If you would like more books for family and friends to sell on our behalf please call our help line 01476 592775.

Good Luck!!

### **Utility Suppliers.....Did you know??**

Our main Utility suppliers like Anglian Water, Western Power, Cadent Gas have a Priority List. This means they will give help and support if there was disruption in your supply.

#### **Anglian Water:**

If you are on the Priority Services Register, you can:

Find out in advance if your water supply is going to be interrupted

Get bottled water delivered to your door if your water supply is cut off

Get information in Braille, audio formats or other languages and formats.

Anglian Water works with other organisations to help identify customers who may need extra support: for example, Lincolnshire District Councils have an assisted bin collection scheme for people who cannot put their own bins out. Customers on the assisted bin collection scheme are told about services they can get if they are on the Priority Services Register.

To go on Anglian Water Priority Services Register just give them a call.

#### **Western Power Distribution**

There are lots of things that they can do to help and support customers who are registered with them. They can provide tailored,

practical and emotional support during a power cut. This might include proactively calling registered customers to check they are alright and provide up to date information about the reason for the power cut and restoration time. In more prolonged power cuts this can also involve them linking in with other services and local partnerships such as the British Red Cross.

The other key benefits are:

- A direct number to call in the event of a power cut, so customers can get straight through to them;
- The ability to agree a password before they visit, for enhanced safety;
- Practical and emotional support, if needed, through the British Red Cross;
- A call or visit to inform customers about planned interruptions to the electricity supply;
- Proactive calls and information in the event of an unplanned power cut.

To join their Priority Services Register please contact them using the contact details below.

They will need your name, address and telephone number(s) and the reason for you being medically dependent on electricity, or vulnerable.

For customers in the Midlands please contact:

Priority Customer Services

Records Team

Western Power Distribution

Tel: 0800 096 3080

Email: [wpdpriorityservmids@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:wpdpriorityservmids@westernpower.co.uk)\*

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can speak to them on the

number above using Text Relay by dialling 18001 first using your textphone.

## **Cadent Gas Supply**

The Priority Services Register is a FREE service to help people who are living in vulnerable situations. Especially those who have extra communication, access or safety needs. You can sign up yourself or share this with someone who might benefit from the service.

If you would like to sign-up to the Priority Services Register you can do this by contacting your energy supplier. You can find out who your energy supplier is by looking on your gas or electric bill. Alternatively, we can register on your behalf either in person or over the phone. Call us on **0345 835 1111**.

## **News from North Hykeham Club by Alan Saunby.**

2<sup>nd</sup> May – A-Z Quiz

We had a few missing today, both members and volunteers through illness and away. Gail read out the questions that she had prepared for each letter from A to Z, the winners with 23 points, The dream team, Derek, Ray and yes me Alan and volunteer Brian, well done! A good quiz and well thought out.

Gail gave out a list of meals for when we go for lunch at The Windmill Carvery where we will be going in June (yum yum), we cannot wait!

16<sup>th</sup> May – Guide Dogs

Today we had a number of members missing again, and we had Katherine and 6-year-old Moss her guide dog. Katharine said that Moss is a big dog he is tall and weighs about seven stone. Katharine told us about Guide Dogs and how they are trained. It costs about £56,000 to train and keep a dog for its lifetime; a dog is retired after

nine or ten years old, depending on the dog. It was very interesting when she spoke about how she gets around Lincoln, all the pit-falls and getting used to the new bus station. It is not very friendly for visually impaired people. A black rail is in braille but it is the wrong place, not opposite to where it should be. Guide dogs are trained to find pedestrian crossings and go to post where the button is, at the back right hand side is a serrated wheel, this turns around when the green man is lit up and tells you that it is safe to cross.

Dee gave out some good news of a donation of £71 from the Vine Coffee morning, the vine is a small group that meet in the communal room on Millers Road, Waddington, and they are a religious group. One of our members used to go to the meetings on a Sunday. Many thanks to them!

30<sup>th</sup> May – Bernard Tragliabini (Singer/Entertainer)

We had a few missing again this week and Dee gave out some more sad news that Gay one of our committee and helpers had passed away, she will be sadly missed.

Dee then introduced our entertainment for this week Bernard Tagliavini, he sings, plays the guitar; he also recites monologues, one of Stanley Holloway's Albert and the Lion.

Bernard volunteers for Persula Foundation, they help all kinds of handicapped both children's and adults, he also is a member of several choirs it was a very entertaining afternoon.

13<sup>th</sup> June –AGM

Dee welcomes a new member Lee, again a few members missing and Ray was leaving because of illness in the family.

We then had our fire drill; things went well for the first time.

Gail read out the minutes of the last AGM, they were proposed and seconded, Dee then read out her chairperson's notes from the last meeting, and the new Committee were voted in. The new committee are chairperson, Dee, Treasurer Brian, no secretary, Gail and Karen will take care of booking speakers and entertainment, other committee members are Len, Maureen and members Eileen (Gill if Eileen is not well) and Alan.

We would like to thank Joyce for the cakes she has baked and a donation. Barbara a volunteer visitor and lady of over 90 gave her a small donation, so thanks goes to her. After a natter and a cuppa the raffle was drawn and a couple of jokes, we closed the meeting.

27<sup>th</sup> June – Lunch at the Windmill (Pride of Lincoln) We had no meeting today and were told to be ready an hour earlier as we were going out for lunch at the Windmill, this used to be known as The Pride of Lincoln, it is just off the A46 Lincoln Bypass.

We arrived on time but the staff did not know that they would serve us, the Windmill is a carvery and you help yourself. As we are visually impaired, we were told it is not safe for us to carry hot food and most have to walk with a walking stick, but the staff did not know about this. The person in charge was on his day off, things were sorted out and we got our meal a little late and the staff did fairly well, the meal was good, but was not very hot (well mine was not). We had a choice of beef or turkey and peas, carrots and cauliflower cheese and a vegetarian mushroom pie with chocolate fudge cake with cream or ice cream and tea or coffee, we could also have a soft drink as well.

11<sup>th</sup> July – Ann Barnes Yesteryear

Dee welcomed Eileen and Joyce back after their illness; another Eileen was given her birthday card.

Dee then welcomed our speaker Ann she said that she is a collector of anything old, but not people! She brought about 40 to 50 pieces

that she had collected and we had to guess what they were. Our group of 3 had about 16 and guest 9 correct. One looked like a piece of bone, several said it looked like a thing to hold the tongue down, others did not know what it was Ann said that she did not know either. The most valuable was what looked like a pair of cutters. They were for cutting the wire off a bottle of champagne, they also had a brush on one of the handles.

Others items we had to guess were a silver hand warmer a page-turner not many got that, but I did. This was a very interesting afternoon. We also had some ice cream kindly given to us by a local newsagent, he gave us several things like Easter eggs and chocolate bars and we thanked Rittesh for his kind gifts.

25<sup>th</sup> July – Tea party.

Today was our last meeting before our usual August break, this was cancelled because of the hot weather; our next meeting will be on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **Social Groups**

Don't forget our other social groups. We have numerous around the area and can always offer a lovely cuppa or two with plenty of chat, laughter, guest speakers, quizzes and raffles.

**'NEW GROUP' Boston Social'eyes'** – The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, Boston.

If you live in the Boston Area you will be receiving an invitation to join this New group in the post along with an invite to the first session where we will be welcoming Vision Aid Technologies to come and talk to us about magnification equipment that is available.

If you would like to become a member of the Boston Social'Eyes' group then please call the office on 01476 592775 and ask for your name to be put on the list for the club.

We are operating a list for this new group as we have been inundated with new services users in the Boston area.

### **Success for the Grantham Social'eyes'!**

Our Grantham Socialeyes club has officially hit its first year mark, a huge thank you must be said to the local community for showing their support and help in ensuring some fantastic guest speakers!

Members have had talks from a various array of services such as the Lincolnshire Police on their programme 'Friends against scams', Woodland Trust and a range of Equipment suppliers.

The group have also enjoyed a trip out to the sensory allotment where they enjoyed fresh cakes, local produce, Pimms and the glorious sunshine!

An acoustic shooting session in which it was good to see some friendly competition, a special visit and talk from Briony about her Shetland pony Bow.

As well as, most members will agree, some scrumptious homemade cakes!

We couldn't do this without the support of our fantastic volunteers who help out every week making sure folks are fed and watered!

We now hope to roll out similar sessions in your local areas so keep an eye out!

Trevor Foss has been a service user for a number of years now and decided to join this group to 'see what it was all about'. Trevor can be heard saying at the end of each session he can't wait for next week's

group. He really looks forward to meeting up and he said he has learned so much he didn't know before.

We would like to thank Kirsty for all her hard work finding great guest speakers running quizzes and organising such valued sessions.

**'NEW GROUP 'Sleaford Social'eyes'** -The Community Room, The Town Hall, Sleaford.

This new group started in September and has enjoyed its first session seeing new members again who have not traditionally joined a group. Feedback from the first session was very positive and people said they had learned new things about living well with sight loss and were looking forward to coming back to the next sessions.

**Spalding Social and All Day Social'eye's Club-** Hayley Stewart Football Ground, Spalding.

This club goes from strength to strength with positive feedback from members especially given the variety of activities and speakers that Virginia organises.

**Stamford Social'eye's** - Community Room, Clare Close, Stamford.

Why not come and join us!!

This is a lovely lively group so if you want to join a very friendly bunch of people and enjoy some social interaction give us a call.

**Join our NEW VIP Veterans Support Group.**

Have you served in any of the forces or taken part in National service?

Perhaps you would like to join our VIP Veterans Support Group that will be meeting here in Grantham and once established we will be setting up a network of VIP Veteran groups in other areas.

You will be assured of a very warm welcome from us and no doubt be able to catch up with many a tale from your forces days.

The first sessions will be held here at our Grantham offices and will initially meet once a month for refreshments, networking, guest speakers and anything else that's legal and fun!

The first meeting will be on the,

1<sup>st</sup> of October from 10.am to 12 noon

5<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 12 noon

3<sup>rd</sup> December from 10am to 12 noon.

If you live outside of Grantham but would like to join this first group you will be very welcome. Please contact us for more information.

### **New Social Activities that have been arranged for you to join us:**

If you would like to know more about any of the additional activities listed below, please contact the helpline 01476 592775.

<b>October</b>	
Monday 1st	Spalding All Day Social'eye's Club; Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 10am – 3pm.
Monday 1st	NEW VIP Veterans support Group 14 Finkin Street Grantham NG31 6QZ
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Grantham Book Group 10am – 11am.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm. Guest – Visionaid.
Monday 8th	Sleaford Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Community Room, Sleaford Town Hall, Sleaford, NG34 7TW.

	Guest - VisionAid
Wednesday 10th	Boston Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, St Georges Road, Boston, PE21 8YB. Guests – VisionAid and Associated Optical
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm. Guest – LIVES with defibrillator
Saturday 13th	Virginia will be with the Spalding Lions promoting sight loss awareness to the local community an informing people of the help that is available from our charity. The stall will be located in the market place directly opposite Boots the Chemist. Please do drop by the stall and say hello, John Haynes MP will be joining in this event so do come along and show your support.
Monday 15th	Spalding Social club, Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 12pm – 2pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Craft Club 10am – 12pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Social'eye'' 10am – 12pm. Guest – Synapptic
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Stamford Social'eye's Club, Clare Close Community Centre 12.30pm – 2.30 pm.
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sleaford Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Community Room, Sleaford Town Hall, Sleaford, NG34 7TW
Wednesday 24th	NEW Boston Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, St Georges Road, Boston, PE21 8YB.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm.
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Boston Lunch Club at the Queen of spades, 12.30pm – 2.30pm. Please call 01476 592775 to book a place and see the menu choices.
<b>November</b>	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm. Guest – Grantham Bell Ringers

Monday 5th	Spalding All Day Social'eye's Club; Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 10am – 3pm.
Monday 5th	NEW VIP Veterans support Group 14 Finkin Street Grantham NG31 6QZ
Tuesday 6th	Grantham Book Group 10am – 11am
Thursday 8th	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm. Guest – Grantham Fire Service
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sleaford Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Community Room, Sleaford Town Hall, Sleaford, NG34 7TW. Guest – Bretherton Handbell Ringers
Wednesday 14th	Boston Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, St Georges Road, Boston, PE21 8YB
Thursday 15th	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Stamford Social'eye's Club, Clare Close Community Centre 12.30pm – 2.30 pm.
Monday 19th	Spalding Social club, Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 12pm – 2pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Craft Club 10am – 12pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sleaford Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Community Room, Sleaford Town Hall, Sleaford, NG34 7TW
Tuesday 27th	Boston Lunch Club at the Queen of spades, 12.30pm – 2.30pm. Please call 01476 592775 to book a place and see the menu choices.
Tuesday 27th	Giving Tuesday! Touch n Tune in Quiz, 14 Finkin St, Grantham, NG£1 6QZ. 10am – 12pm £3 per person
Thursday 29th	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm. Guest – Grantham U3A Guitar Group
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas coffee morning 10am to 12 noon at the Shoulder of Mutton Sleaford.
<b>December</b>	
Monday 3rd	Spalding All Day Social Club; Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 10am – 3pm.

Monday 3rd	NEW VIP Veterans support Group 14 Finkin Street Grantham NG31 6QZ
Tuesday 4th	Grantham Book Group 10am – 11am
Thursday 6th	Grantham Social'eye's 10am – 12pm.
Friday 7th	Christmas afternoon tea at Ayscoughfee Hall, Spalding in the garden room 12.30 arrival for eating at 1pm.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sleaford Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Community Room, Sleaford Town Hall, Sleaford, NG34 7TW
Tuesday 11th	Christmas Wreath making, 14 Finkin Street, Grantham, NG31 6QZ. 10am – 12pm, £10 per person
Wednesday 12th	Boston Social'eye's, 10am – 12pm. The Len Medlock Voluntary Centre, St Georges Road, Boston, PE21 8YB
Thursday 13th	Christmas Carol Concert, St Wulfram's Church, Grantham, National School Choir and Grantham Ukuele Band. 10am – 12pm, £3.00 per person
Thursday 13th	Christmas Evening Concert, St Wulframs Church, Grantham. Rock choir and U3A Choir local ladies choir 'Invoice' starts at 7pm. Entry £10.00. Refreshments and raffle. Mini Christmas Craft market place (TBC).
Friday 14th	Stamford Social Club, Clare Close Community Centre 12.30pm – 2.30 pm.
Monday 17th	Spalding Social club, Hayley Stewart Football Grounds 12pm – 2pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Grantham Craft Club 10am – 12pm

Come and join us for a special Christmas afternoon tea at Ayscoughfee Hall, Spalding in the garden room on the 7<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30 to eat at 1pm.

Cost will be in the region of £11.50 per head Please ring and book your place by calling the Helpline on 01476 592775. Everyone welcome, bring a

friend Christmas jumpers are optional!

### **Regular Social clubs**

Our very valuable volunteers support all of our social groups and we are extremely grateful for their time and commitment. If you have not joined, one yet give us a call on our helpline 01476 592775 and we will arrange an introduction.

All the clubs offer companionship activities such as quizzes, outings and guest speakers etc. You will receive a very warm welcome indeed.

<b>Area</b>	<b>Meets</b>	<b>Frequency and time</b>
Grantham Wednesday Club	Harrowby Lane Methodist Church, Grantham,NG31 9LN	Fortnightly from 2pm to 4pm
Grantham Monday Club	Sandon Road Community Centre Grantham NG31 9AX	Fortnightly from 2pm to 4 pm
Grantham Riverside Monday Club	Riverside Community Centre Welham Street, Grantham NG31 6QS	Opposite Monday to the Sandon Road club from 2pm to 4 pm
Grantham Target Social Club	Harrowby Lane Methodist Church, Grantham	Every Friday from 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Grantham Swim Club	Belton Woods Hotel Belton, Grantham, NG32 2LN	Every fortnight 12 noon until 1 pm  Coffee and pastries afterwards

Grantham Social'eye's	14 Finkin Street Grantham Lincs NG31 6QZ	Every Thursday 10am to 12 noon
Grantham Craft Club	14 Finkin Street, Grantham, Lincs, NG31 6QZ	Third Tuesday of the Month 10am – 12pm
Grantham Book Club	14 Finkin Street, Grantham, Lincs, NG31 6QZ	First Tuesday of the Month 10am – 11am
Spalding all day club	Hayley Stewart Football Ground, Spalding PE12 1DA	First Monday of the month 10 am to 3pm
Spalding Monday Social Club	Hayley Stewart Football Ground, Spalding PE12 1DA	Third Monday of the Month 12 – 2pm
Bourne Social Club	Manor Court West Street, Bourne, PE11 9PP	Every week on Wednesday except for the first Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4 pm.
Bourne Book Club	Manor Court West Street, Bourne, PE11 9PP	First Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm
Stamford Social'eye's club	Clare Close Community Centre Stamford, PE9 2QA	Third Friday of the month from 12.30 to 2.30pm
Boston Luncheon	Queen of Spades,	Last Tuesday of the

Club	Wellington Road, Boston, PE21 0NX	Month 12.30 – 2.30pm
North Hykeham Social Club	Methodist Church, 3 Chapel Lane North Hykeham Lincoln, LN6 9QZ	Fortnightly on a Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm

### **Lincolnshire County Council Transport Line.**

Need help and advice about transport for your appointments?  
We'll help you find your transport solution, call 01522 550129.  
Free and friendly information regarding transport in Lincolnshire.  
Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm  
Saturday 10am to 1pm.

**WE ARE HERE TO HELP** if you need support, advice or information  
please call our Helpline 01476 592775 which is open Monday to  
Friday 9am to 5pm

**YOU ARE WELCOME** to visit our Resource Centre at 14, Finkin  
Street, Grantham, which is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm

#### **We are:**

Mr Malcolm Swinburn	Chief Executive
Mrs Susan Swinburn	Operations Manager
Virginia Richardson	Community Support Worker/SIO
Kirsty Smith	Services Administrator
Ciara Atkinson	Administration Apprentice
Mrs Marie Scoffield	Administration Assistant
Mrs Eve Farley MBE	Volunteer Development Worker

## DISCLAIMER

We make every effort to ensure that all the information we pass on to you through this newsletter is accurate. Where benefits, concessions etc., are mentioned, we wish to point out that it is up to the individual to make the relevant enquiries, as each case is judged independently. Service providers and products are featured from time to time for information purposes; again, it is up to the individual to make the necessary enquiries with regard to their suitability.