

Look Out!

October 2023



Halifax Society for the Blind Newsletter

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of Lookout!

Inside you will find we are preparing for Christmas, book early to avoid missing out on any of the festive events.

You will also find a roundup of our very popular new groups, the walking group and the theatre group plus information about even more new activities.

Look out for some exciting news about a navigational app that may benefit many of our members.

We hope you enjoy catching up with what has been going on at HSB and finding out what is coming up.

Kind Regards

The HSB Team



Faye Herbert
Chief Officer



Luke Spink
Sight Support
Advisor



Jane Sellers
Sight Support
Advisor



Tina Twibill
Activities
Coordinator

Christmas!

Halifax Society for the Blind Christmas Fair

Yes, it is back! The legendary HSB Christmas Fair, if you have never been to one of our Christmas Fairs you do not know what you are missing!

This year's Christmas Fair will take place at our new premises, 7 Southgate, on Saturday 25th November from 10am to 2pm. We shall be offering refreshments throughout the day in our café area.

Our amazing Sight Centre will be open for you to come along and see what we have available, and we will have a number of stalls selling Christmas gift ideas.

Alongside this we will have our very popular Tombola stall, a Bottle stall and Cake Stall.

We would welcome any donations for our Tombola and Bottle stall, and these can be brought to the centre Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm.

Please come along and support us!

If you are unable to make it on the day but would still like to offer your support, please feel free to make a donation.





Christmas Fair

7 Southgate, Halifax, HX1 1DL

Saturday 25th November

10:00am - 2:00pm



Christmas Lunch

The Christmas Meal for this year will be at the Mereside Café at Shibden Park on Tuesday 12th December at 12noon.

There is a choice of menu from either a traditional Christmas dinner or a Festive Afternoon Tea.

If you choose the traditional Christmas dinner, then you either have a two or three course meal. The two-course dinner is £21, and the three-course meal is £25.50.

We will be able to provide door to door transport should you require it, for a small donation. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Any bookings must be made before Friday 24th November.

CHRISTMAS MENU

Starters

Roasted carrot and coriander soup (Ve, GF)
Ham Hock and pea terrine
Prawn Cocktail

Warm Goats Cheese served with caramelised
beetroot salad

Main Courses

Roast turkey with all the trimmings
Lemon butter roasted salmon with white wine
and parmesan sauce
Mushroom, cranberry & Brie wellington with a
port and red wine jus
Served with all the trimmings
Vegan Mediterranean Tart

Desserts

Christmas pudding with brandy sauce
Pear and Almond Tart served with custard
Chocolate & Orange Cheesecake with Vanilla
ice cream
Chocolate and Cherry Cheesecake (Ve, GF)
Cheese and biscuits
Tea and Coffee

FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA

Selection of Sandwiches
Yorkshire turkey and cranberry
Ham and wholegrain mustard
mayonnaise
Smoked salmon and cream cheese
with chives
Brie and Caramelised Onion

Christmas Cake and Wensleydale
cheese
Mini mince pies
Mini Raspberry Cheesecake
Mini scones with cream & preserve
Accompanied by a selection of teas
& filter coffee.



Christmas Theatre Trip

It is that time of the year again and we are already planning our Christmas celebrations! What better way to start than by having a trip to the theatre to see the ever-popular Carols and Brass Concert.

This theatre trip will take place on Saturday 2nd December at 6.30pm.

This concert is a perfect way to begin your Christmas celebrations. The Halifax Choral Society and the legendary Black Dyke Band, combine to present a joy filled evening of festive fun and rich harmony.

Also featuring in the Carols and Brass concert are the talented young pupils of Bradshaw Primary School Choir.

We have a limited number of tickets available for £19.65 each. If you would like to book a ticket, please ring the office on 01422 352383.

We may be able to help with transport arrangements but please ring the office to discuss this further.



Calendar and Diary Orders

It's that time of year again... Prepare yourself for 2024 with a VIP diary now available to order!

For the full catalogue and to place your order, either visit us at 7 Southgate, or contact the office on 01422 352383. Deadline for orders is Monday 27th November.

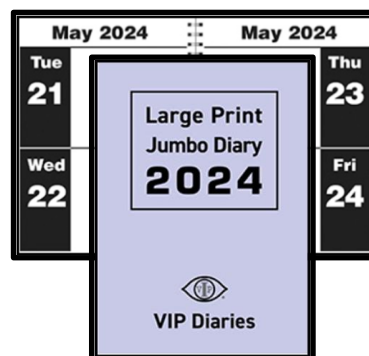
£6.50



£8.00



£21.00



BlindSquare News

We are pleased to announce that after partnering with BlindSquare, BlindSquare Event is now available for download within Halifax town centre with no charge!

For those that have not heard of BlindSquare yet, Blindsquare is one of the leading navigational apps designed for people with a visual impairment.

BlindSquare have placed a radius around our building 7 Southgate, enabling any IOS user within the radius to download and use Blindsquare Event with no charge!

Downloading Blindsquare Event gives users the full experience of the paid version for 2 days. Once those 2 days end, if you access the app within the radius, you will be given another 2 days!

If you would like to know more about BlindSquare, feel free to visit us at 7 Southgate or call our office on 01422 352383. You can also find more information about BlindSquare at: <https://www.blindsquare.com/> 4

Sponsorship for Paul Willis

Halifax Society for the Blind are delighted to be able to support Paul with his passion. Please read on to hear from Paul himself.

Hi all, my name is Paul Willis I am from Halifax with 4 kids, and I just wanted to say a huge thank you to Halifax Society for the Blind for sponsoring me for this upcoming rugby season and to let you all know what things I get up to as someone with visual impairment.

I will start off by saying I was born visually impaired and Halifax Society for the Blind, and the visual impairment team have worked alongside me through all my life through school and helped me become who I am today.

For anyone that knows me or if you ask anyone about me, they will tell you I love my sports especially football, athletics and of course rugby.

I love sport so much I qualified for the Beijing and London 2012 Paralympics for athletics but now a days I currently play disability football for Greetland FC which is disability team on a Saturday morning and I play mixed ability rugby which is disabled players and mainstream players on the rugby pitch at the same time and rules are set out and in place so everyone safe but the game and rules don't change and that everyone equal and that is for Halifax Magpies where I have been made captain at Ovenden Park I was the first blind player they had but we have recruited another lad called Connor who has very little vision compared to myself.

But because I don't let my vision get in the way of my sports or my day-to-day activities I also get picked for the mainstream squad at Halifax RUFC.



Walking Group Roundup

This has been a very popular addition to our new programme of activities. Walks this year have taken place at Ogden Water, Shibden Park, Cromwell Bottom, Sowerby Bridge canal, and Hollingworth Lake.

The group is now taking a break for the winter period, but they are getting together on Tuesday 31st October 11am-1pm at Southgate to plan for next year.

If you want to get involved or find out more about the group, feel free to come along and join the discussions. Lunch of Winter Vegetable Soup and a roll will be provided but please book in advance, so we know how many to cater for.



Theatre Group

Another popular addition to our new activities, this group has visited a variety of theatres including the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Alhambra and Victoria Theatre. We have seen some brilliant shows, but the favourite seemed to be the musicals! We look forward to new members joining us on upcoming trips.



New Activities at Halifax Society for the Blind

Every Wednesday join us from 12pm to 2pm for our Knit and Natter group. This is an informal group for those with a love of knitting or those who wish to learn a new skill.

Taking place in our very lovely social engagement café, you can come along and knit either some of our patterns or something of your own creation whilst having a brew and a chat.

Also coming up, every Friday at 11am is our new singing group! For anyone with a love of singing, this group promises to be filled with fun. No expertise needed; all skill levels welcome! We look forward to seeing and hearing you soon!

Activities Timetable

Bowling Group - Every Friday at Electric Bowl Halifax from 11am.

Brighthouse Group - Every Monday at Brighthouse Rest Centre from 12.30pm–2.30pm.

Chairobics - Every Friday (hybrid) 10am-10.30am.

Coffee and Chat Group - Every Wednesday at HSB from 2pm-4pm.

Craft Group – 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at HSB 12.30-2.30pm.

Games Group - Every Thursday at HSB from 10am-11.30am. Why not make a day of it on a Thursday and for £5 join us for our games group, followed by a light lunch and then you can get creative at our craft group in the afternoon. Booking is essential so we can cater for everyone.

Guide Dog Owner Group – a chance for current, past, and potential guide dog owners to catch up and share their experiences, have a chat and a coffee on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11am to 12pm at HSB.

Inbetweeners – This is our rebranded Working Age Group held on the 4th Thursday of every month at HSB 6pm – 8pm. Chat, share hints and life experiences with fellow working age members.

Social Café and Sight Centre– our social engagement café and Sight Centre is now open Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm. Pop along and see us for a brew and a bun! Appointments can be made outside these hours, please contact the office if you would like to arrange a suitable time.

Technology Group– 1st Wednesday of every month at 11am, a hybrid (on Zoom and/or in person at HSB) group discussing different relevant technology.

Theatre Group – Are you interested in a trip to the theatre? If so, look no further!

Walking Group– Once a month between May and September each year.

Zoomers – Join us for a chat and quiz every Tuesday via Zoom at 11am-12noon.



Contact HSB

Call: 01422 352383

Email: **info@halifaxblind society.org.uk**

Write: 7 Southgate, Halifax, HX1 1DL

Website:

www.halifaxblind society.org.uk

How to Join Our Zoom Sessions

To join, you can use one of these options:

- On a computer or smartphone, click this link <https://zoom.us/j/9683947679> or
- on any phone, dial 0131 460 1196, then enter the meeting ID 968 394 7679, then press hash #. If asked for a participant ID just press hash # again and you're in! Or;
- Save the one tap mobile below exactly as shown onto your smartphone and use it each time to join our Zoom sessions on the phone
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