



Hello again from all of us here at Vision Support. We are pleased to announce that we have two new Community development workers one for North Wales and one in Cheshire. So we hope you will join us in welcoming David and Nia! As always we hope you are staying safe and if you would like to get in touch with Vision Support you can call us on 01244 381515 or email information@visionsupport.org.uk

After our welcomes we also have to say a fond farewell to two long serving members of the team this month.

Peter Curtis has been a trustee of the charity since 2009 and the Chair of the Board since 2017. Peter believes wholeheartedly in equality and independence for people with vision impairment. Despite a busy political life, serving two terms as Chair of Flintshire County Council he found time to work both for Vision Support and for Wales Council of the Blind. Always forthright in his views, always caring and with a wicked sense of humour his presence on our Board will be missed. We wish Peter and his wife Jenny all the best for the future.

We are also bidding farewell to Miriam Jones whom many of you will know. Miriam has worked for Vision Support for over 20 years, beginning as a volunteer, then becoming a support worker, training as a rehabilitation officer and latterly becoming our Operations Manager. I hardly know where to begin to pay tribute to her contribution to our work and her dedication to people with vision impairment. The impact she has made on the lives of service users and colleagues alike cannot be described in one paragraph. Suffice to say she is held in the highest regard and affection by everyone and I know you will all want to join with me in thanking her for commitment to the charity and wishing her an enjoyable and fun filled retirement. Mim our door will always be open and the kettle will be on whenever you are passing.

The Blind Snowden Climb 2021

A big congratulations to everyone involved in the climb up Snowdon this August! A massive **£3,575** has been raised for charity which includes Vision Support and another charity called Sight Line.

We'd like to extend a massive thank you to Sam and everyone else involved from the Turn a Blind Eye team for all of their efforts.

Pictured below is a group shot of the team, showing sixteen people all wearing matching blue t-shirts that have the "Blind Snowden Climb" logo in white.

Fundraising efforts like this are a great way to bring people together as well as raising money for your chosen charities. Check out Sams Facebook page

"Turn a Blind Eye " to find out in more detail from Sam how the climb went and to keep up to date with his future adventures.



Another great fundraising story for you this month comes from a **Sponsored Walk** done by Julia who is pictured to the right in the sunshine wearing a turquoise fleece and smiling into the camera while holding her symbol cane. Julia raised a whopping **£1,150** after walking five miles around Tarn Hows. Which is an area of the Lake District National Park in North West England with her family.

We even had the pleasure of Julia personally bringing in the donation to give to Miriam Wright CEO who said " It was a privilege to be able to thank Julia in person. We are genuinely grateful for her interest in Vision Support and the effort she has put into raising this money for us."



Community Information Service

Below is a small selection of the visits we have planned this September for the Community Information Service, if you would like to check where else we are this month please call us on **01244 381515** or view the full schedule on our website **www.visionsupport.org.uk**

Monday 6th September Co-op, Dolgellau 11.00am – 2.00pm

Tuesday 7th Bellis Farm Shop&Garden Centre, Holt 10.30am – 2.30pm

Thursday 9th Canolfan Beaumaris Leisure Centre 10.30am – 2.30pm

Friday 10th Lower High Street Car Park, Prestatyn 10.00am – 2.30pm

Monday 13th Barmouth Main Car Park 11.00am – 2.00pm

Tuesday 14th September Co-op Runcorn Old Town 10.00am – 3.00pm

Thursday 16th Ellesmere Port Market Car Park 10.00am – 3.00pm

Charity Cards

We are pleased to let you know that we now have a selection of cards available to buy! Cynthia Price is one of our service users who has always been an avid painter but during the past year she has been trying new methods and kindly contacted us to ask if we could print her work to raise some money for Vision Support. If you would like to purchase some of these lovely printed cards, please give us a call on 01244 381515 or you can email information@visionsupport.org.uk



Pictured above is one of Cynthia's paintings depicting a fast moving river flowing around large boulders with green land to either side. Trees are framing the background with an orange and blue sky depicting a sunrise.

Thank you Susan!

Susan has been a volunteer with Vision Support since joining us in 2017 to volunteer in the Wrexham Resource Centre in Avow, assisting with office tasks and visitors. Going on to support us with our social group the Wrexham Visionaires, planning monthly meetings and days out for the group. Additionally, Susan helps to raise funds for us in the community by taking out collection boxes into a variety of shops in the community and collecting them again and she is also a telephone befriender. Susan continued to volunteer from home throughout the pandemic by keeping regular telephone contact with as many members of the Visionaires group as she could, as well as continuing her role as a telephone befriender.

Quote from service user:

“A weekly telephone call gives me something to look forward to; Susan is a character and makes me laugh. She thinks of others before herself.”

Vision Support feels that Susan should be recognised for her volunteering work as she has proved to be an incredibly dedicated volunteer and her role has grown significantly over the years. When the office was closed due to lockdown in March 2020, she decided herself that as service users would be isolated, she would telephone nearly all the group members regularly for a chat and to make sure they are coping with the changing situations. We would like to thank Susan for all her hard work, particularly during the pandemic when she has been an invaluable support to many.



Pictured above is Susan who is sitting on a bench next to her small white dog. With her guide dog Gretal just in front of her Smiling and holding her “Volunteer Award” certificate.