

**Welcome to the April 2024  
Vision Support newsletter  
covering: Halton 0151 5118801  
North East Wales 01244 381515  
Chester 01244 478910**



A big hello from all of us at Vision Support!  
The evenings are getting lighter and our social groups are in full swing. With activities such as playing bowls, accessible cinema visits, learning braille and handmade crafts.

Across North East Wales, Halton and Chester there is a great mix of groups and activities. Give us a call if you'd like to find out more about what's available in your area.

In this edition of our newsletter we'd like to share some bits from our 2022/2023 Impact Report but first here are some upcoming events!

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## **VisionZone**

Come along to the VisionZone events to learn about services, support and assistive technology for people with a vision impairment. All events run from 10am until 2pm. No appointment needed.

29th May - Vision Support. Chester Vision Centre (Bluecoat) Bluecoat Square, Upper Northgate Street, Chester, Cheshire, CH1 4EE.

12th June - Halton Sensory Services Centre, 126 Widnes Road, Widnes, WA8 6AX.

13th June - Northwich Infirmary, Ophthalmology Department, Winnington Hill, Northwich, CH8 1AW.

# VisionZone 2024

## Solutions for Low Vision



Would you like to find out more about assistive technology, Support, Services, Groups, and much more?

Our Vision Zone events bring together a variety of excellent services and charities covering your local area.

No matter what your sight loss condition we are here for you. Whether it's just to gain knowledge or hands-on experience with new technologies, entry is free, and our friendly staff will greet you with a warm welcome.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**10am to 2pm**

**Vision Support, Bluecoat Square, Upper Northgate Street  
Chester, CH1 4EE**



**0800 1456115**

**[www.lowvisionshop.co.uk](http://www.lowvisionshop.co.uk)**

# Impact Report

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These are just a few snippets from our 2022/2023 Impact Report. If you would like to read the full report, you can read it in the latest news section of our website [www.visionsupport.org.uk](http://www.visionsupport.org.uk), or you can get in touch to let us know if you'd like a copy of the full report. Now onto the stats!

## The Year in Numbers

Making a difference to the lives of people with a vision impairment is our focus and we work to provide support in a person-centred way to ensure that people can achieve what they want to while building independence.

Here are a few of the things we have achieved in the past year:

**9109 newsletters** were sent out - 7276 in large print, 879 on audio CD, 870 by email and 84 in braille.

**3521** people visited our **Community Information Service** vehicles.

Our **social groups** met **263** times.

**874** people have received **digital skills training**.

**30** people received **counselling**.

**1228** people received **rehabilitation** from a qualified **Vision Rehabilitations Specialist**.

**243** people have been supported with **benefits advice**.

**549** people have been visited by **Home Visitors**.

Amazing when you put it all together!

As always, if you would like to find out more about any of our services, please get in touch, we'd love to give you more details about what we as a charity can do for you.

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## Thank you

All of the good work that Vision Support does would not be possible without the tireless hard work of our team of paid staff and volunteers. All of your work is appreciated, along with your ideas and perspectives on everything we do.

Thanks also go to our Board of Trustees who freely give up their time and share their expertise to ensure Vision Support is governed and well led. A big thank you as well to Vision Support Trading who work hard every year and gift aid an amazing amount of money to enable us to carry out our charitable work.

Thank you as well to our Commissioners in different Local Authorities, your support is greatly appreciated and finally thank you to all people who use our services, we appreciate your trust in us and thank you for allowing us to come into your lives and your homes. We thank you for your continued support in our programs.

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## Community Information Service

On the next page are the visits we have planned for April with the Community Information Service.

Please note we have two vehicles and the schedule can be subject to change. For more information please call us on **01244 381515** or email **information@visionsupport.org.uk**. It can also be found on our website, **www.visionsupport.org.uk**.

## **Community Information Service Schedule**

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Tuesday 2nd **Morrisons, Saltney (foyer)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Tuesday 2nd **Runcorn Old Town Co-op** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Wednesday 3rd **Frodsham Library** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Thursday 4th **Ellesmere Port Market Car Park** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Monday 8th **Abergele, Eye Clinic** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Tuesday 9th **Bellis Bros, Holt (car park)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Tuesday 9th **Brook St Neston near Sainsbury's** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Wednesday 10th **Tweedmil, St Asaph** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Wednesday 10th **Widnes Market Community Stall** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Thursday 11th **Porthmadog, Iard yr Orsaf car park** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Thu 11th **Northwich Town Centre near Boots (Cheshire Sight Loss Information Line Spotlight Session)** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Friday 12th **Prestatyn Library (Talking Point)** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Monday 15th **Morrisons, Rhyl (car park)** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Tuesday 16th **Cemaes, Cae Pwmp (car park)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Tuesday 16th **Waverton Shops** 10.00am - 12.00pm

Tuesday 16th **Barbour Institute Tattenhall** 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 17th **Morrisons, Caernarfon (car park)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Wednesday 17th **Kingswood Kingsway** 10.00am - 12.00pm

Wednesday 17th **Blacon Library** 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Thursday 18th **Northwich Victoria Hospital** 10.00am - 3.00pm

Sunday 21st **Wrexham Maelor Hospital (entrance)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Monday 22nd **Llandudno Prom (by the Cenotaph)** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Wednesday 24th **Asda, Queensferry (Financial Wellbeing and Benefits Spotlight Session)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Thursday 25th **Colwyn Bay Library** 10.00am – 2.30pm

Friday 26th **Flint Pavilion (car park)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

Monday 29th Ysbyty **Gwynedd, Bangor (entrance)** 10.30am – 2.30pm

# Dementia Friends

We are pleased to share that during the Vision Support teambuilding day this year, we all became Dementia Friends, thanks to a great information session from Becky at Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council. If you'd like to find out how to become a Dementia Friend, get in touch with the Alzheimer's society on 0333 150 3456.

Pictured below is a large group photograph of the Vision Support staff smiling towards the camera, some are holding signs that read 'We are Dementia friends' and 'I am a Dementia friend'



## Get Involved

Do you have any handy hints, fun facts or funny or relatable stories related to your vision impairment that you would like to share with others?

Send us your stories to get a chance to be featured on our social media pages. These can be completely anonymous if you would prefer, just let us know! You can email us directly at [comms@visionsupport.org.uk](mailto:comms@visionsupport.org.uk)



Facebook

@VisionSupportCharity



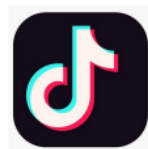
Twitter

@\_VisionSupport



Instagram

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TikTok

@VisionSupportCharity