

**Welcome to the August 2025
Vision Support newsletter,
covering:**

Halton 0151 5117260

Chester 01244 478910

North East Wales 01244 381515



A big hello from all of us at Vision Support! This month we have a reminder about our upcoming **Low Vision Roadshow**, news from our recent **skydive fundraiser**, **what's on in Halton**, **a new phone/online group**, **what's on in Cheshire** and some **North Wales updates** on **Vision Sport** and **Sight Loss Council in Wales**.

Please note, a full list of our events are on the Vision Support website **www.visionsupport.org.uk** under our events calendar and you are always welcome to give us a call to find out what's going on in your area!

Art Auction

There are still a few pieces left from our **VI Art Show** — and this is your chance to own one! Each artwork was created by someone with a vision impairment and celebrates creativity and personal expression.

These one-of-a-kind pieces are available in exchange for a donation to Vision Support, helping us continue our work across Cheshire, Halton, and North Wales. Don't miss out — once they're gone, they're gone! To find out what's available or to make a donation, call 01244 381515.



Vision Support Low Vision Roadshow

23rd Trinity Centre Llandudno 10 - 4pm

25th Ellesmere Port Civic Hall 11 - 3pm

26th Widnes Masonic Hall 12 - 3pm

Join us this September for a unique event spotlighting essential resources, expert organisations, and the latest in eye health, low vision aids, equipment, and wellbeing support.



Email information@visionsupport.org.uk or call
01244 381515 if you'd like more details

Skydive Success

A huge well done to **Chelsea, Martha, Kieran, and Helen**, who recently took on the ultimate challenge — a **Skydive at Tilstock!**

They helped raise an incredible **£3,379** in support of Vision Support. We're so proud of their amazing efforts and deeply grateful for their fundraising, which will go a long way in supporting people with vision impairments. We have more jumps coming up and lots of other fundraising opportunities in the works too! If you'd like to get involved, call our Fundraiser **Stef** on **07821 649 066** or email **sharding@visionsupport.org.uk**

What's Going on in Halton

July was full of connection, laughter, and new experiences for our Halton service users! We've had evening social meet-ups and golf taster sessions which have been a real hit, and we'll be announcing new dates soon, so get in touch if you'd like to find out more.

Monday Morning Meet-Ups

Join us on the last Monday of the month at **The Route Café** for a chat, hints and tips on navigating vision impairment, and a good cuppa! The next session is **29th September**.

Running alongside is our **Tea & Tech** drop-in at Halton Sensory Services (no appointment needed).

Tuesday Social Group

Is still going strong with around 20 attendees each week! Recent highlights include a Llandudno trip, garden parties, and a performance from The Rock Choir. **Tuesdays, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM, Wicksten Drive Christian Centre**. If you would like to join us, get in touch!

What's going on in Halton

Guitar Jamming & Lessons

We're holding our first ever Guitar Jamming Session at Halton Sensory Services on **Friday 29 August at 10:00 AM**. This is a relaxed, no-pressure chance to have a go. We hope to offer guitar lessons from autumn, so come along and see if it's for you!

New Sports Taster Sessions

Get ready to try something new! Dawn is arranging **VI Tennis** and **Blind Baseball** taster sessions.

Connecting with the Local Community

Our team has been busy flying the flag for Vision Support across Halton. Dawn and Lyn from DRC joined a community drop-in event in Widnes to share our services and answer questions about the support we provide.

The Halton team attended the **Disability Awareness Day** at Walton Gardens. Dawn also delivered vision awareness and sighted guide training to stewards beforehand, helping them feel confident supporting visitors with vision impairments.

Get Involved

Interested in sessions or volunteering?

Contact Halton Sensory Services on **0151 511 7260**

or email **rdunbar@visionsupport.org.uk** or

datherton@visionsupport.org.uk.

Vision Support Social Circle



**Join our new group!
A fresh way to connect
Online or by phone!**

Looking for a friendly chat and some fun?
Join our new social group online or by
phone - connect with others and enjoy
some great conversation!

1st Tuesday of the month

10am-11am

For more information or to find out how to
join in call **01244 381515** or
email: information@visionsupport.org.uk

What's going on in Cheshire

VI Tennis Taster Sessions

Have you always wanted to learn to play tennis or wanting to keep fit and make new friends? Come and join us for some more fun taster sessions led by an LTA accredited coach.

Dates: 30th September, 7th October, 14th October, 21st October.

The coaching sessions will take place on the all weather outdoor courts at **Glan Aber Tennis Club, Westminster Park, Hough Green, Chester, CH4 8JQ** from **2.30pm - 3.30pm**.

VI Golf Driving Range Session

We have our monthly VI driving range golf sessions on **Friday 22nd August** and hopefully more to come in September at **Foregolf, Sealand Road, Chester, CH1 6BP** from **10.30am-12.00pm**.

If you are interested in playing, please get in touch!

Cheshire Wellness Walks

Come and join us on **Tuesday 9th September** for a leisurely sensory walk around **Delamere Forest**, taking a slower pace to allow you to explore your surroundings in a more mindful way. The walk will be **11.00am-12.00pm** led by Delamere Forest's Explorers Team.

Please feel free to bring along a friend or family member if you require support. Refreshments will be available from the Visitors Centre Cafe. We will be travelling by train from Chester to Delamere. To reserve your place, call **01244 478910**.

What's going on in Cheshire

Artwork Talk

Join vision impaired artist **Dee Rollinson** on **16th October** for an inspiring talk and tour exploring her artwork on display at **St John's Church Hartford, Northwich**. Dee's work explores faith, humanity, and nature through expressive painting and sculpture.

The session includes a hands-on activity where you'll create your own thumb pot to take home. **Spaces are limited – booking essential.**

Chester Walled City VI & Activities Group

We kicked off the season in July with a friendly match at Touchwood Bowling Club, Wrexham – ending in an exciting draw.

On 31st July, we welcomed Christleton Outdoor Bowling Club to Chester for a relaxed afternoon of Crown Green Bowling — lots of laughs and a chance to polish up our skills! New members welcome— come bowl with us! Image description: A group of people stand on a green, smiling and waving.



Vision Sport - North Wales

The **Vision Sport** project is now drawing to a close after a year of cycling, climbing and kayaking. It has been amazing to hear the feedback from people and to see attendees of all ages trying something new, meeting others and having a laugh.

Megan our **Community Engagement Coordinator** for North Wales has written a few words about her experience running this project:

“Vision Sport has been a particular favourite part of my role recently! I enjoy being active myself, and so organising and going on these activities has made for some very fun days at work!

It has been great to see the participants enjoying themselves by either having an experience for the first time or remembering how they used to do something. For example, we had keen cyclists join our sessions in Wrexham who can no longer go out independently on the roads and loved being able to ride again. We also had participants who had always wanted to try climbing but hadn't had the opportunity until now.

We have been lucky enough to have some very fun days out as part of this project, from riding bikes through the woods on a sunny day to kayaking across Llyn Padarn surrounded by beautiful scenery!”



Image description (from previous page): The Vision Sport logo, featuring the words "Vision Sport" in bold purple letters above a U-shaped curve containing a stylised bicycle wheel in the centre. The entire design is in purple and white.

Sight Loss Council in Wales

Wales Council for the Blind, with funding from **Thomas Pocklington Trust** are creating a **Sight Loss Council** which will be run by and made up entirely of vision impaired people from across Wales.

The Sight Loss Council will be instrumental in identifying barriers and issues facing people with a vision impairment, and they will work together to find ways to advocate for the rights of people on a national and local level. **They are looking for 2 council members for the Betsi Cadwalader Health board.**

The Councils will hear the voices of the wider population through our social groups and Local Action Groups in North Wales, so that the views are representative of the wider vision impaired community.

The application process for the Sight Loss Council will be formal and people will be invited to apply, be interviewed and follow a recruitment process. Training will be delivered to the group to make it a success.

If you are interested or you would like more information, please email **ngreer@visionsupport.org.uk**. Please note that this will be a voluntary position.