Monthly What’s on Guide for January 2024

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# Monthly What’s On Guide

Welcome to your monthly update of local accessible services and events across Bristol, Bath & NE Somerset, and South Gloucestershire.

In this update we have primarily included dates for January 2024, there are some events that are taking place later in the year to give you time if you need to plan ahead. Next month’s guide will be sent out at the end of January.

# Sight Support West of England Events and Notices

## ****Your Local Hub May Have Changed****

Please note that some of our hubs have changed, either the time, day, venue or availability to drop in. Please check details of your local hub before attending, you can either check our website or see the listings in this newsletter. [Website listings of hubs and social groups](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/events/)

## Blindingly Funny Comedy Night

Sight Support West of England proudly presents **Blindingly Funny** – an evening of comedy, confessions, and compassion.

It will be held at the wonderful Tobacco Factory in Bristol, on the evening of Tuesday 6th of February from 7.30pm.

We have a fabulous line up of 5 acts – the best comedians you may have never heard of, poetry perfection and proof that you don’t need to be blind to be funny though it helps! Our acts are:

* Louise Leigh, Bristol based comedian who will be our magnificent MC.
* Si Deaves, who is a writer and podcaster as well as being described as one of the country’s most original undiscovered performers.
* David C Johnson – he has been described as Bristol’s answer to John Hegley.
* Lizzy Lenco – We don’t often think of blindness as funny – but that doesn’t stop the lovely Lizzy! Think disability, heavy metal and cream cakes – that will give you the idea!
* Jake Donaldson, who is headlining our Blindingly Funny night, describes himself as visually impaired and perpetually anxious. However, this does not stop him being a sex-magnet and supremely funny.

Tickets cost just £15 and are available from the Tobacco Factory Theatres website on the link below or you can call them on 0117 902 0344. [Buy tickets to Blindingly Funny on The Tobacco Factory Theatres website](https://tobaccofactorytheatres.com/shows/blindingly-funny/)

Buying a ticket for Blindingly Funny is one of the many ways you can support the important work of Sight Support West of England. Tickets to this event would also make a fantastic Christmas present!

### There’s ****even more!****

You also have the chance to win a pair of tickets to see superstar Sarah Millican at the Bristol Beacon on Friday the 5th of July 2024 – see our dedicated page by clicking the button below or buy your tickets on the night!

[Sarah Millican raffle – win 2 tickets!](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/get-involved/raffle-sarah-millican/)

**We hope to see you on the night and please help us by spreading the word!**

## Tech Training & Support

We will be offering one-to-one support to help you become confident using everyday technology. The sessions will take place at either our Fishponds or Thornbury Resource Centre.

We are also offering one-to-one support with your phone / tablet from our tech volunteers in our Bristol, Bath and South Glos community hubs. Call us to book an appointment.

## Smart Phone and Tablets for Beginners

Would you like to use the internet on a smart phone or tablet but are daunted and not sure where to start? We can help. Accessing the virtual world is much more straightforward than you might imagine. With our support you will soon be online, keeping in touch with friends and family and navigating the internet with ease.

Join our FREE four-week Beginners Smart Phone and Tablet Training Course for people with low vision. Learn how to use a touch screen and gain key skills such as using email or searching for information. Also discover useful apps and accessibility features that can help people with low vision get the most out of the digital world.

Courses will take place:

* **Mondays 1.30 to 3.30pm 5th – 26th February**

Trinity-Henleaze United Reformed Church, Waterford Road, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4BT.

* **Wednesdays 10am to 12pm – 7th – 28th February**

Broadmead Baptist Church, Union Street, Bristol, BS1 3HY.

* **Thursdays 10am to 12pm – 8th – 29th February**

The Park Centre Kingwood, High Street, BS15 4AR.

Contact Sam Edwards for more information, to book your place on the course or for more information about receiving tech support at one of our hubs:

0117 3224885 [sam.edwards@sightsupportwest.org.uk](mailto:sam.edwards@sightsupportwest.org.uk)

## Sight Support Closure Over Christmas

Over the Christmas break our office in Bristol will be closed from the end of Friday on the 22rd of December and will reopen on Tuesday the 2nd of January 2024. Hubs will also not take place during this time.

## VIP’s Calendars and Diaries Available

You can now order large print A4, A5 and A6 diaries and A3 calendars for 2024. These calendars and diaries are designed specifically for visually impaired people.

6 Pocket Diary £6.50

A5 Midi Diary £8.50

A4 Desk Diary £10.50

A4 Jumbo Diary £21.00

A3 Portrait Calendar £8.00

A3 Landscape Calendar £8.00

If you would like to order a calendar or diary, you can do so by calling us when we are open again on the 2nd of January.

## Seeking Treasurer

The Sight Support Board of Trustees are currently seeking a treasurer with financial experience to join the Board and help keep an overview on the financial health of the organisation. If anyone knows of someone who might be interested in finding out more, please do give us a call or drop us an email and we can send more information or have a chat about what we are looking for. Thank you.

# Sight Support Community Hubs and Social Groups

Here is a listing of our community hubs and social groups coming up this month. You can also find up to date information on our website at [Events - Sight Support West of England](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/events/eye-can-bath/)

**Hubs** – At our Sight Loss Advice hubs you will find information, guidance, and advice. Our Sight Loss Advisors can demonstrate a variety of assistive equipment and technology. They have lighting, magnifiers, talking watches, liquid level indicators and much more, so please think about coming along. We also offer tech support and training from a trained advisor or trained volunteers at many of our hubs. For some hubs you will need to book an appointment but others you can just pop along, check each hub listing for more information.

**Social Groups** - Some of our Hubs have a volunteer led social group running alongside them, and some social groups take place independently of a hub. Our social groups are a place where people with sight loss can come together, share experiences, swap tips and tricks for living with sight loss and most importantly chat, relax, and enjoy each other’s company. Our groups are run by lovely volunteers who will make you feel welcome. Sight loss doesn’t have to mean being isolated, so why not come along to one of our friendly social groups.

## Ashton Coffee & Convo – Social Group Only

Bristol Indoor Bowls Club, South Liberty Lane, Ashton, Bristol

Every second Wednesday, 11am to 1pm: 10th & 24th January 2024.

## Bath - Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only

Bath Central Library, 19-23 The Podium, Bath BA1 5AN

2nd Tuesday of the month – 10am to 1pm: 9th January 2024 – appointment only, contact us to book.

## Bedminster - Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Guide Dogs Southwest Regional Centre, 10 Stillhouse Lane, Bristol, BS3 4EB. Enter using the pedestrian gated entrance to the left of the car park entrance as you look at it. You will then need to ring the doorbell on the left of the front door, and someone will let you in.

1st Friday of every month: 5th January.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 10am & 11am.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 10am & 1pm.
* Tech support available with volunteers during drop-in session

## Bradley Stoke Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only – date change

Bradley Stoke Library, 1 Fiddlers Wood Lane, BS32 9BS.

Usually 3rd Thursday of the month but has changed for January only to – 2.30 to 4.30pm: Tuesday 9th January - appointment only, contact us to book.

## Bristol Coffee & Convo – Social Group Only

Boswells, The Galleries, Bristol

2nd Saturday of each month – 11am to 1pm: 13th January 2024.

## Bristol Resource Centre – Appointment Only

Sight Support West of England, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Bristol, BS16 2QQ.

Tech support and training available -  by appointment.

You can visit our resource centre every Thursday by appointment only.

## Chew Valley Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only

Stanton Drew Village Hall, Sandy Lane, Stanton Drew   
BS39 4EL

2nd Wednesday of the month – 10.30am to 12.15pm: 10th January – appointment only, contact us to book.

## Cancelled - Henleaze Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Meeting at the Coffee Bar, entrance off the Waterford Road Entrance. Trinity Church Henleaze, Waterford Road, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4BT.

This hub is cancelled for January so will be running on 1st Monday of next month: 5th February 2024.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 11am & 12pm.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 11am & 1pm.
* Tech support available with volunteers during drop-in session

## Keynsham Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Libourne Lounge, Keynsham Library, Keynsham Civic Centre, Market Walk, Keynsham, BS31 1FS

3rd Friday of the month – 2pm to 4pm: 19th January 2024.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 2pm & 3pm.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 2pm & 4pm.
* Tech support available with volunteers during drop-in session.

## Kingswood Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

The Park Centre Kingswood, High Street, Kingswood Bristol BS15 4AR

1st Thursday of the month: 4th January.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 10am & 11am.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 10am & 12pm.
* Tech support available by appointment.

## Midsomer Norton Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group – venue to change in February

Unit 14, 14 South Rd, Midsomer Norton, Radstock BA3 2EZ.

2nd Friday of the month – 10am to 12pm: 12th January.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 10 & 11am.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 10am & 12pm.
* Tech support available with volunteers during drop-in session

From February the new venue for the Midsomer Norton Hub will be:  
Midsomer Norton Methodist Church, High St, Midsomer Norton, Radstock BA3 2DR. The hub will be in a room just off the main hall. People on reception or in the hall can direct visitors to the hub.  
From February, Midsomer Norton will have an additional social group meet up each month. The extra social group will meet on the fourth Friday 10am-12pm at the new venue, new attendees very welcome. \*no sight loss advice will be available at this secondary social group.

## Thornbury Resource Centre – Appointment Only

Sight Support Charity Shop, 18 High Street, Thornbury, BS35 2AH

Appointments are available every Monday – please contact us to book your appointment.

Tech support and training available -  by appointment.

Please note: the consultation room is on the first floor, we have a stair lift in place but if you feel you would have difficulty using it, we can make your appointment at Thornbury Library instead.

## Whitchurch Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

The ABC Centre, Chessington Avenue, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 9EW

2nd Monday of the month: 8th January 2024.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 2pm & 3pm.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 2pm & 4pm.
* Tech support available by appointment.

## Yate Sight Loss Advice Hub - Appointment Only – date change

Yate Library, Unit 44 Yate Shopping Centre, West Walk, Yate, BS37 4AX.

Usually on the 2nd Thursday of the month but for January the day has moved – 10am to 1pm: Tuesday 9th January. Appointment only, contact us to book.

## Yate Sight Loss Friendship Group – Social Group Only

Soho Coffee Co, Yate Leisure Centre - first floor, Kennedy Way, BS37 4DQ

1st Wednesday of each month, 11am to 1pm: 3rd January 2024.

# Events From Other Organisations

These events and notices are from other organisations. Please check with the contact given that the event is going ahead as planned. Sometimes changes need to be made to dates and times at short notice, so it is best to check with the organisation before the event takes place.

# Local Notices

## RNIB Tech Training Session Yate

RNIB run a tech training session every Wednesday afternoon during term time at Yate Library. Referrals are made through Chris Turner on 0303 123 9999 or [tfl@rnib.org.uk](mailto:tfl@rnib.org.uk)

## Retina UK Bristol, Bath & Wilts Peer Support Group Meeting

This Peer Support Group provides a welcoming, safe and friendly opportunity for people to meet up to share experiences, tips and information.

“It would be great to hear your thoughts and ideas for any future potential speakers, activities or places of interest you would like to visit when we start to meet in-person in Spring 2024.”

Meetings are held online via Zoom every 2 months.

[Retina UK Support Group link to register](https://retinauk.org.uk/event/bristol-bath-wilts-local-peer-support-group/)

## Sighted Guide Training from Guide Dogs

Sighted Guide Training from Guide Dogs continues into next year.

Guide Dogs offers a range of free sighted guide training, for people looking to learn the basics of guiding adults with sight loss. There are sessions available for the general public, for friends and family of people with sight loss, and for organisations. There is a handy quiz on the website to help people select which session suits them best: [www.guidedogs.org.uk/sightedguiding](http://www.guidedogs.org.uk/sightedguiding) You can also contact Guide Dogs on 0800 781 1444 – booking available into 2024.

# Local Leisure and Sporting Activities / Events

## VIP Reading Group – Bristol Central Library, College Green

The reading group, for visually impaired people takes place on the last Thursday of every month from 10.30 till 12. New members are welcome.

Audio books are chosen by members from RNIB’s talking book service or Calibre – so it’s helpful if you have already signed up to those services. The next books are:

* 25 January – Death and the Penguin by Ukrainian author - Andrei Kurkov. (RNIB)
* 29 February – The Slowworm’s Song by Andrew Miller. Set in Somerset, Belfast and Bristol. An ex-soldier is called to give evidence at an inquiry in Belfast. It’s a story of guilt, trust and father’s yearning to atone (RNIB)

For further information please email [vibookgroup.bristol@gmail.com](mailto:vibookgroup.bristol@gmail.com) or ring Katharine Seymour at the Central Library on 07880 069877

## Visual Impairment Friendly Rowing

Learn to row in a fun and friendly environment. You will learn how to row in wooden fixed-seat rowing Cornish Gig or Skiff which is a very stable boat and take 5-8 people. Sighted rowers will provide support if required.

These session cost £6, day trips may cost a little more.

If you would like to attend these sessions, please email [volunteering@allaboardwatersports.co.uk](mailto:volunteering@allaboardwatersports.co.uk) to book on.

## Find a Sensory Walk near you

Sensory walks allow you to use your senses to connect with your surroundings and Sense have partnered with [**Ordnance Survey**](https://updates-sense.org.uk/6RW-8AFYT-A1ZIP7-559AJL-1/c.aspx) to help you find and follow an accessible route, as you go.

The walks are designed for people with complex disabilities but can be enjoyed by anyone. You can go alone or in a group, you don’t need any specialist equipment and the walks can be any length you like.

You can go on foot, use a wheelchair or walker – sensory walks are inclusive for all. [Find a sensory walk near you - Sense](https://www.sense.org.uk/our-services/arts-sports-activities-for-disabled-people/sensory-walks/find-a-sensory-walk-near-you/?utm_campaign=13924181_Sense%20Active%20Newsletter%20-%20May%202023&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Sense&dm_i=6RW,8AFYT,A1ZIP7,Y339I,1)

## Street Dance Sessions

The fully inclusive sessions are run by Streetenvy Dance Academy and supported by Access Sport. Sessions run at the following times:

\* 6-9 Years - 5-5:45pm

\* 10+ Years - 6-6:45pm

\* 18+ Years - 7-7:45pm

Classes are for all ages and inclusive to all needs so everyone can get poppin' and lockin'!

For more information, please contact:

Email: [streetenvydanceacademy@hotmail.com](mailto:streetenvydanceacademy@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.streetenvy.co.uk](http://www.streetenvy.co.uk)

Alternatively, you can contact Access Sport - Email: [jonny.fenner@accesssport.co.uk](mailto:jonny.fenner@accesssport.co.uk) Phone: 07878814396

## Robins Foundation VI Football Sessions

Adult and youth VI football sessions organised by the Robins Foundation. Both sessions are free and will run from Imperial Sports Ground, BS14 9EA, on pitch 6.

* The youth session is on Tuesdays from 5 pm – 6 pm and will run term time only.
* The adult session takes place on Tuesdays from 6 pm – 7 pm.

For more information email [edward.studley@bcfc.co.uk](mailto:edward.studley@bcfc.co.uk) or call 07899 991983.

## Online Fitness Sessions

Coach led workout for seated and standing athletes from the comfort of your home! Functional Adaptive Movement (FAM) are running weekly fitness sessions on Mondays, 7-8pm on Zoom. The sessions are adapted to suit any fitness and experience level and only use items that you have at home - no fancy equipment needed.

First session is free and run on a donation basis after.

To sign up or if you have any questions or would like to chat to someone ahead of the session, please contact Mike:

Email: [info@functionaladaptivemovement.com](mailto:info@functionaladaptivemovement.com)

## Free accessible cricket sessions

VI Super1s cricket hub at St Bede’s Catholic College 135 Lawrence Weston Road, Bristol BS11 0SU   Sessions are monthly and on January 28th, February 25th, March 24th and April 21st. All sessions are 1pm – 3pm Sessions for 12 – 25 year olds. No experience necessary. All sessions are free

Fully accessible cricket sessions at Frenchay hub has moved indoors for the winter. Venue: Downend School Sports Centre, 25 Westerleigh Road, Bristol BS16 6XA.   5pm – 6pm.  Sessions are Free and for 12 – 25-year-olds.

For more information contact Jeanette Tate: [jeanette.tate@gloucestershirecricketfoundation.org](mailto:jeanette.tate@gloucestershirecricketfoundation.org)

## Indoor Cricket Net Session at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club

Nevil Road BristolBS7 9EJ

The session will take place on Sunday 31st March, 1:30pm to 4:00pm and anyone interested can simply come along.  Gloucestershire V. I. C.C.C are looking for players for the 2024 season and this session is a good way into the club.

Contact Phil Gingel for more info [bristolbluephil@googlemail.com](mailto:bristolbluephil@googlemail.com)

07973 480372.

## Fitness Class for Blind and Visually Impaired People

Specialised exercise class for blind and visually impaired people. Meets every Monday at 12pm, Kingswood Leisure Centre, Church Road, Staple Hill BS16 4RH. Low impact session that provides a full body workout for strengthening and toning muscles and burning calories.

£8 per session, or you can block book 6 sessions for £40.00. First session is free.

Contact Hayley or Marcella for more info and to let them know you intend to attend. Hayley or Marcella: 07525 790951[rechargeft@gmail.com](mailto:rechargeft@gmail.com)

## VI Runners Bristol

If you would like to find out more about the group visit their Facebook page and send them a message if you have any queries. [VI Runners Bristol - Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1890506954520150/posts/3026763507561150/)

## Roll and Stroll

Free walking and rolling group for disabled people. Walks last between 40 minutes and 2 hours and are fully accessible.

Wednesday and Friday, 11:30am at various locations across Bristol. Express your interest by contacting Dan [Mch.bristoldef@gmail.com](mailto:Mch.bristoldef@gmail.com) or call 07552 580678.

## Two’s Company

A tandem cycling project for adults and young people in Bristol who are blind or visually impaired.

Call 0117 353 4580 or email [twos-company@lifecycle.org.uk](mailto:twos-company@lifecycle.org.uk) or visit [www.lifecycleuk.org.uk](http://www.lifecycleuk.org.uk)

## Soul Trail Wellbeing Walks

if you are interested in getting out for a walk, get in touch with Soul Trail Wellbeing, they have received training in how to offer sighted guiding. [Soul Trail Wellbeing | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/soultrailwellbeing) Email: [soultrailwellbeing@gmail.com](mailto:soultrailwellbeing@gmail.com)

# Local Support Groups and Courses

## Bristol Macular Support Groups

* Broadmead - meets third Wednesday of every month:   
  10 am – 12pm. Broadmead Baptist Church, Union Street, Broadmead, Bristol BS1 3HY.
* Cote Lane - meets last Thursday of the month   
  2:30pm – 4pm. Saint Monica Trust, Cote Lane, Bristol, BS9

Contact Jo Fishwick on 07947 373 244 or Jo Fishwick [Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org](mailto:Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org) to find out more information or find other groups.

## Bath Macular Support Group

The Bath Macular Support Group meets at Good Living room at St John's Foundation, behind the Cross Bath.

They charge £2 for each meeting which includes coffee, tea, and biscuits.

Contact Jo Fishwick on 07947 373 244 or [Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org](mailto:Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org) to find out more information or find other groups.

## Keynsham Macular Society Peer Support Group

They will be meeting on the last Wednesday of the month at 2 pm at Saint Monica Trust, The Chocolate Quarter Retirement Village, Trajectus Way, Keynsham, BS31 2GJ.

Contact Jo Fishwick if you require more information on 07947 373 244 or [Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org](mailto:Jo.Fishwick@macularsociety.org) .

## Thornbury Macular Support Group

Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 10.30 to 12.30 in the Methodist Church Hall in Castle Court, Thornbury, just off the High Street. Speakers and entertainment are arranged for each week. Tea / coffee and biscuits are provided. Contact [marye.king@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:marye.king@blueyonder.co.uk) to find out more information.

## Chipping Sodbury Vision Support Group,

Meets at Chipping Sodbury, Grammar School Rooms on the third Tuesday of every month at 2pm.

They have a speaker plus refreshments with time put aside for members to meet each other and chat and make new friends.  Anyone who would like to volunteer to help would be made very welcome. Their speakers cover a wide range of topics, although many are connected with sight loss.

The cost is £2, which covers the cost of room hire and the speaker.

Tel: 01454 851507 E-mail: [csvision1924@outlook.com](mailto:csvision1924@outlook.com)

## Sensory Support Service

Drop-in sessions on Thursdays from 11 am – 1 pm. The sensory support team can support you with:

Reading letters/bills, making telephone calls, getting information, housing related issues.

At Bedminster Library, 4 Bedminster Parade, Bristol BS3 4QA

No appointment needed, first come, first served. 20 minutes max. per person. Telephone: 0117 914 1440, SMS: 07775 695 434 FaceTime: 07775 695 434

## Torch fellowship groups

Torch Trust offer Christian based fellowship where blind and sighted people meet on equal terms.

South Fellowship Group Meets: Usually meet the last Saturday of the month at 3pm, Location: Counterslip Baptist Church Hall, 648 Wells Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 9HT. Contact: Stewart Simmons Tel: 0117 9624220 e-mail [s@stewartsimmons.plus.com](mailto:s@stewartsimmons.plus.com)

Torch Trust services have a Christian basis but are open to people of all faiths or none. Visit their website here: [Torch Trust | Torch Fellowship Groups](https://torchtrust.org/living-with-sight-loss/torch-fellowship-groups/)

# Local Audio Described Arts Events

## Galleries and Museums

### Arnolfini Gallery

16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

The next VI tours are on Saturday 27 January and Saturday 3 February. From 10 – 11 am

They will be of **Eregata እርጋታ,** the first major solo European museum exhibition by one of Ethiopia’s leading contemporary artists, Elias Sime, introducing audiences to a man and maker of extraordinary craftsmanship and collaborative spirit.

Further details from [community@arnolfini.org.uk](mailto:community@arnolfini.org.uk)

Tours are held before the galleries open so that the tours can be conducted without being disturbed.

### Arnolfini - Phaedra Ensemble

16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

Saturday January 20th, 4:00pm - Running time approx. 45 minutes.

A very special music event for blind and visually impaired audiences and friends. Developed by the Phaedra Ensemble working with Holly Thomas, the performance will explore music by the composer Gavin Bryars, together with improvisation and spatial sound. Expect an immersive experience in spatialised sound and audio description.

The Phaedra Ensemble make music in the space between the classical, contemporary and experimental worlds, rethinking popular culture and collaborating across genres. Founded in 2014, Phaedra has evolved from a string quartet to a larger collective of like-minded performers, drawing from London’s diverse contemporary and chamber music scene.

Holly Thomas is a UK based dance artist, choreographer and performer with a specialism in inclusive choreography and embodied audio-description for dance. In her practice she explores the often uncharted territory of dance and visual impairment and the aesthetics of choreography from a non-visual perspective.

If you would like to book a place, please email [Phil.Owen@arnolfini.org.uk](mailto:Phil.Owen@arnolfini.org.uk) Please let us know any particular access requirements you may have.

The event is free. (Donations very welcome).

### Royal West of England Academy

Queens Rd, Bristol BS8 1PX

Saturday 6 January from 10.30 –12.00 – Also Artists: An exhibition by gallery staff and freelancers. It will be led and described by Sarah Kelly. She will be joined by the Visitor Experience staff, behind the exhibition, who can explain more about how the show came together.

You will also be invited to listen to and comment on AD recordings of artworks in the exhibition. The tour concludes with a discussion and refreshments.

To book a place please email Ellen Pye, Learning & Participation Assistant [ellen.pye@rwa.org.uk](mailto:ellen.pye@rwa.org.uk) with the date of the tour you'd like to attend or ring reception on 0117 973 5129.

Please let them know if you are bringing a sighted companion with you so they can arrange for the right number of volunteers to support the session.

### Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery

Queen’s Road, BS8 1RL

Tours for VI patrons of the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition – are being planned. Watch out for details. Or read about the exhibition on this link [Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2023 | Bristol Museums](https://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/bristol-museum-and-art-gallery/whats-on/wildlife-photographer-of-the-year-2023/)

### Bath, Victoria Art Gallery

Art on Mondays talks for VI Visitors

29 January - Katharine Wall, Senior Curator: The Wonderful World of Ladybird Book Artists

19 February - Jim Riseley, Collections Manager: The Gallery Collection

11 March – Artist ,Catherine Ducker: Good Intentions

Sessions run from 10–11.30 am. But as the gallery is closed to the general public on those days ring 01225 477232 for access information or email

Kersti Haabjoern - [Kersti\_Haabjoern@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Kersti_Haabjoern@bathnes.gov.uk)

## Theatres

### Bristol Hippodrome

17 January – Life of Pi – A major play based on the story of a boy stranded on a lifeboat with a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan, and a Royal Bengal tiger.

1 February - Wicked – a musical and devilish spin on the Wizard of Oz

9 March – Matthew Bourne’s ballet Edward Scissorhands

14 March - Jesus Christ Superstar

24 April – The Welsh National Opera performs Cosi Fan Tutti by Mozart

15 May - The hit musical Hamilton

Where shows have a touch tour they should be booked separately. To find out more about the Access for All service - email [bristoladmin@theambassadors.com](mailto:bristoladmin@theambassadors.com" \t "_blank) or call the access booking line 0333 009 5399 for tickets

### Bristol Old Vic

3 February – A contemporary, new production of Shakespeare’s tragedy – Macbeth

23 March – Starter for Ten – A bright new musical based on the book and film. A coming of age comedy about love, belonging and a dream to be on University Challenge.

For more details ring the Box office – 0117 987 7877

### Tobacco Factory Theatre

Raleigh Road, Southville, BS3 1TF

There will be 2 AD Performances of Oliver Twist – a reimagining of Charles Dickens’ classic tale - on 17 January at 7pm and on 18 January at 2pm

“Witness a glorious re-imagining of Charles Dickens’ classic story, as Oliver escapes the workhouse to join the outrageous escapades of Fagin and company. A brighter, bigger-hearted production you will not find as this festive adaptation of the famous tale is brought to Bristol with a belly full of cheer.”

To book please contact Box Office: 0117 902 0344 or[tickets@tobaccofactorytheatres.com](mailto:tickets@tobaccofactorytheatres.com)

To book or ask any questions, please contact the box office directly on 0117 902 0344 or email [tickets@tobaccofactorytheatres.com](mailto:tickets@tobaccofactorytheatres.com) .

### Bath - Theatre Royal

10 February - Emma Rice’s Wise Children company bring their own sense of theatrical wit and wonder to Blue Beard.

23 March – The Kite Runner – Direct from Broadway. Based on the novel by Khaled Hosseini it tells a tale of friendship that stretches from Afghanistan to America.

For tickets and information phone the box office on 01225 448844 and ask to subscribe to the Theatre’s Access List

# Online Notices / Support Groups / Webinars

Our information about online resources from other organisations has moved to our website. Please follow the link to find information about support groups / webinars / online social groups / surveys / resources and events that might be of use or interest for anyone living with sight loss.

[Online Resources From Other Organisations - Sight Support West of England](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/resources/online-resources/)

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Tel 0117 322 4885, Email [info@sightsupportwest.org.uk](mailto:info@sightsupportwest.org.uk)

Sight Support is a registered charity no 1178384. Registered Office: St Lucy’s Sight Centre, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2AT