# Monthly What’s On E-Newsletter for June 24

Table of Contents

[Monthly What’s On E-Newsletter fo June 24 1](#_Toc165029879)

[Monthly What’s On Guide 2](#_Toc165029880)

[Wiltshire Sight Events and Notices 2](#_Toc165029881)

[Wiltshire Sight Community Hubs & Socials 4](#_Toc165029882)

[Events & Notices From Other Organisations 12](#_Toc165029883)

[Leisure and Sporting Activities 14](#_Toc165029884)

[Described Arts Events 21](#_Toc165029885)

[End of document 22](#_Toc165029886)

# Monthly What’s On Guide

Welcome to your monthly update of local accessible services and events across Wiltshire and Swindon.

In this update we have primarily included dates for June there are some events that are 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 June 2024.

# Wiltshire Sight Events and Notices

## Eye Can Exhibitions

This year there will be two fantastic Eye Can exhibitions taking place. They are organised by our partner charities Insight Gloucestershire and Sight Support West of England. Both events are held outside of Wiltshire so if they are too far to travel to, we will be holding an exhibition in Salisbury in the spring of 2025.

* Eye Can Gloucestershire will take place on 3rd June 2024, from 10am at Dowty Sport and Social Club, Down Hatherley Lane, Down Hatherley, Gloucester, GL2 9QH.
* Eye Can Bristol will be held on 9th October from 10am at BAWA, 589 Southmead Rd, Bristol, BS34 7RG.

Both events are free to attend and are a one stop shop for all things sight loss related. There will be a wide range of suppliers demonstrating equipment and assistive technology designed to make life easier for anyone living with sight loss. It’s a great chance to try them out and find what works best for you. You will also find local and national organisations offering helpful services. In addition each event has a range of interesting talks held throughout the day.

Find out more about the upcoming event at [Eye Can Gloucestershire webpage](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/events/eye-can-gloucestershire/)

You can book your ticket for Eye Can Gloucestershire by visiting the [Eventbrite booking page for Eye Can Gloucestershire](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fbuff.ly%2F4cXNo66%3Ffbclid%3DIwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR24tSxvxqY7FPCiGG6TJp1EFTNjew8G9ZNdj7Q_5ZaLUTaFr8o6Np3sb1Q_aem_Afd4RarYF-L6Y6hFCf5iIHDSMHovufEQfhQ1nGbK_S3tkr8rXyxFt0L_GfR0pW-TJdlly9vFTE6UzKrCnSnRs64x&h=AT3w1HiAMDzJKRBDFfcAnGnSaUujx8Z70OS7alRNZ5HbYikpx-8I5iam18yS_0HFOS-ArCEl1_aHINFWHTB7Lw_scfCWo8-Q-Riqe_QJW8R_w__EAHpba7Te4K5pJ-VgWQ&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1p_TcYsSwfnTaDSlax-opSynVx5AjiHrebUJoZ0WVY0WD-VF51hT21L0C7HI1XXRgfWO1sg-3KoqB64vDsd8oOl40KYs2hx-omxYuypC3h0MtW8NPZyqY9JlxT5nOPxBxnMYBoSeg_ByRG_ECvtowqyjfHxiPw52yVGeE6ZpGywmRkWeV8K8gseyOzGJyMWaqpTwW3_kDMDCT1RhlfQRIiLAt9ARaFnX80) or call Insight Gloucestershire directly on 01242 221170.

These events are sponsored by:

Optelec - [lowvisionshop.co.uk/](https://lowvisionshop.co.uk/) and

Humanware - [humanware.com/en-united\_kingdom/home](https://www.humanware.com/en-united_kingdom/home)

# Wiltshire Sight Community Hubs & Socials

Here is a listing of our community hubs and social groups coming up this month. Find all up to date information on our website at [Events - Sight Support West of England](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/events/eye-can-bath/) (please note our website is shared with our partner charity Sight Support).

**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. 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.

## Amesbury Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Amesbury Library, Smithfield Street, Amesbury, SP4 7AL

2nd Thursday of month, 10am to 12pm: 13th June

* Drop in to see your advisor between 10.30am-11.30am
* Appointments available – contact us to book
* Social group at this hub between 10.30am-12.30pm

Vision Aid will be running demonstration of low vision aids and lighting options at this hub.

## Bradford on Avon – Appointment Only

Bradford on Avon Library, Bridge Street, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1BY

1st Wednesday of the month, 10am to 12pm: 5th June Appointment only, contact us to book.

## Calne Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Calne Leisure Centre, White Horse Way, Calne, SN11 0SP

4th Thursday of the month: 27th June.

* Drop in to see your advisor between 10.30am & 11.30am.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Social group at this hub between 10.30am & 12.30pm.

## Chippenham Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group.

Community Hub, Borough Parade, SN15 3WL

2nd Wednesday of the month: 12th June.

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

## Corsham Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

The Pound Arts Centre, Pound Hill, SN13 9HX

2nd Tuesday of the month: 11th June.

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

## Cricklade Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only

Cricklade Library, High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AE

3rd Tuesday of the month 10.30am to 12.30pm: 18th June Appointment only, contact us to book.

## Devizes Resource Centre

Devizes Resource Centre, St Lucy’s Sight Centre, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes, SN10 2AT.

Our resource centre is available every Wednesday for appointments, contact us to book yours.

## Devizes Social Group

Devizes Resource Centre, St Lucy’s Sight Centre, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes, SN10 2AT.

1st Tuesday of each month, 10.30am to 12.30pm: 4th June.

## Highworth Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only

Highworth Library (Lift available) Brewery Street, SN6 7AJ

2nd Monday of the month: 10th June - Appointment only, please contact us to book.

## New Location Malmesbury Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group – Appointment Only

New Location - Malmesbury Library, 24 Cross Hayes Lane, Malmesbury, SN16 9BG

3rd Wednesday of the month: There will be no hub running in June next hub will be in new location on 17th July - Appointment only, please contact us to book.

## Marlborough Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

The Jubilee Centre, 28 High Street, Marlborough SN8 1LW.

2nd Tuesday of each month: 11th June

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

## Melksham Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Melksham Library, Community Campus, Market Place,

Melksham, SN12 6ES

1st Thursday of the month: 6th June

* Drop in to see your advisor between 1pm & 2pm.
* Appointments available – contact us to book.
* Melksham Tea social group at this hub between 1pm & 3pm.

## Pewsey Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

Bouverie Village Hall, North Street, SN9 5EQ

4th Tues of the month, 10.00 to 12.00am: 25th June

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

## Royal Wootton Bassett Hub – Appointment Only

Royal Wootton Bassett Library, 11 Borough Fields, Royal Wootton Bassett, Swindon SN4 7AX.

3rd Monday of the month,10.30am to 12.30pm: 17th June Appointment only, please contact us to book.

## Salisbury Sight Loss Resource Centre

Wiltshire Sight Hub, 23 Catherine Street, SP1 2DQ.

Our Resource Centre in Salisbury is available for appointments, 10am to 4pm on every Monday for appointments, contact us to book yours.

## Salisbury Coffee & Convo

First floor of Salisbury Library, Market Walk, Salisbury, SP1 1BL.

3rd Wednesday of each month from 10.30 am to 12.30am: 19th June. This month we are joined by a guest speaker – Tyler Phillips who is the regional manager from the Macular Society.

## Swindon Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only

Swindon Central Library, Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QG

1st Tuesday of the month: 4th June Appointment only, please contact us to book.

## Swindon Audiobook Reading Group

Swindon Central Library, Ground floor, Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QG.

Held on the 1st Monday of each month, 10 to 11.30 am: 3rd June.

## Tisbury Sight Loss Advice Hub – New Social

Nadder Leisure Centre, Weaveland Rd, Tisbury SP3 6HJ

4th Thursday of month, 11am to 1pm: 27th June

•        Drop in to see your advisor between 11am-12pm

•        Appointments available – contact us to book

•        New social group at this hub between 11am-1pm

## Trowbridge Resource Centre

Wiltshire Sight Charity Shop, 27B Fore Street, Trowbridge, BA14 8EW.

Our Resource Centre is available every Friday for appointments, contact us to book yours.

A social group will run alongside the hub on the 3rd Friday of the month – 21st June , 11am – 1pm.

## Warminster Sight Loss Advice Hub – Appointment Only –

Warminster Library, Three Horseshoes Walk, Warminster, BA12 9BT

2nd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am to 12.30pm: 12th June Appointment only, please contact us to book.

## Wroughton Sight Loss Advice Hub & Social Group

St Joseph’s Church Hall, Devizes Road, Wroughton SN4 0RZ. 1st Wednesday of the month: 5th June.

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

# Events & Notices 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.

## Macular Week

“It is nice to be with other people, to listen to their problems and how they cope with their sight loss.”

John, who was diagnosed with macular disease 15 years ago, explains how the camaraderie and support from other people can make such a difference to those living the biggest cause of sight loss in the UK.

“Talk to people and get support and from the Macular Society there are groups for you which are very supportive,” he said.

National charity the Macular Society supports people like John with macular disease. The organisation will lead the conversation around the condition, the importance of eye health and the journey to find a cure as part of Macular Week, which runs from Monday, June 24 to Sunday, June 30.

There are many different ways you can get involved and raise funds to Beat Macular Disease. Follow the link below or join the conversation on social media platforms using the hashtag #MacularWeek

<https://www.macularsociety.org/get-involved/>

For support call the Macular Society Helpline on 0300 3030 111.

## Audio Description Association (ADA)

The Audio Description Association (ADA) supports describers, venues, and users with workshops, training, and guidance. ADA Chair, Edward Copisarow, emphasises the need for VI members' involvement in training and policy influence.. To get involved, contact ADA Vice Chair, Tim Calvert at [info@audiodescription.co.uk](mailto:info@audiodescription.co.uk) Join online at <https://www.audiodescription.co.uk/join-ada>.

## Swindon Dial-a-Ride

A door-to-door transport service for people of all ages with limited mobility.  Call 01793 616050 or email [transport@dialarideswindon.org.uk](mailto:transport@dialarideswindon.org.uk) to register with them.

## Sighted Guide Training from Guide Dogs

Guide Dogs offers a range of free sighted guide training. [www.guidedogs.org.uk/sightedguiding](http://www.guidedogs.org.uk/sightedguiding) 0800 781 1444.

# Leisure and Sporting Activities

## RNIB Social Groups in Swindon

At this social group you can relax, chat, and have a tea or coffee. General chat with advice from Eye Clinic Liaison Officer / Rehabilitation Officer

* 4th Thursday of each month 10 am to 12 pm.

Craven House, 145 Victoria Road, Swindon, SN1 3BU

[Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk) or 07761 328571.

[George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk](mailto:George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk) [Tricia.sail@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Tricia.sail@rnib.org.uk)

## Swindon Blind Craft Club

Swindon Blind Craft Club meets every Tuesday between 10 am and 1 pm and is run by Lou Curtis at Swindon Blind Association, Craven House, 145 Victoria Road, Swindon, SN1 3BU. Parking available and bus stop opposite. Bring your own lunch. Carers welcome.

You can enjoy a wide variety of activities, including creating baskets, painting, and tile decoration! Get in touch with Lou if you want to come along and find out more: 07703 306 403.

## **Swindon Bats Sports & Social Club**

Swindon Bats have a variety of groups:

### Swindon Bats Bowling

1. every Wednesday afternoon 12.15 pm
2. every Thursday 6.45 pm

They meet at the Ten Pin Bowling Centre, Shaw Ridge, Swindon the cost is £5 for 2 games.

Anyone interested in playing should contact Sue Mead by email or phone beforehand to book a place: [SueMead@outlook.com](mailto:SueMead@outlook.com) or 07788 150487.

### Swindon Bats Social Group

Their social group meets at Craven House in Swindon from 2 to 4 pm every other Monday afternoon.  On these occasions they play skittles, indoor kurling and sometimes speakers are organised.  This gives visually impaired people the chance to talk about anything and everything from what’s in the news to how they cope with visually impaired life.

### ****Swindon Bats Walking Group****

2nd Thursday of every month (Weather permitting) starting in March at Coate Water Country Park, Swindon (Meeting outside the cafe).

10:30am - 12pm (stroll around the lake followed by a drink in the nearby pub or cafe for those who would like to stay to chat)

## Bowls Club in Chippenham

The Bowls Club in Chippenham are running a weekly indoor bowls club for people with sight loss and other disabilities.  Taking place at North Wilts Bowls Club in Chippenham (near Sainsburys) each Friday 4-5pm, September - Easter.  Coaching is given.  The contact for this club is Maureen on 01249 657228.

## Devizes PHAB Group

(PHysically disabled and ABle bodied) an organisation which brings people with and without disabilities together. See their program of events at [Devizes PHAB meetings and events](https://www.devizesphab.co.uk/uploads/1/2/3/4/123478387/phabprogramme16apr2023.pdf)

## Devizes PHAB Group Bowls Event

Devizes Phab Bowls will be running from May to August at the Bowls Club. On Friday afternoons from 2pm to 3.30pm on: 31st May, 14th June, 5th July, 26th July, 9th August, 23rd August (Grand Final) Contact Terry Bazeley on 01380 829610.

## Blind and VI Golf

Have you played golf in the past or are interested in trying it for the first time? England and Wales Blind Golf are planning to run some have a go day throughout the year at local driving ranges with tuition included for all ages. Golf is a great way for families to share quality time together, both outdoors and indoors, whilst making new friends. Driving ranges technology now make golf far more accessible, with feedback for people with limited sight. If you have played golf in the past and gave up through sight loss, or are interested in trying a new a sport,  please visit the charity website [www.ewblindgolf.co.uk](http://www.ewblindgolf.co.uk) or follow the social media channels England & Wales Blind Golf. More information can also be found on the charity YouTube channel, or by contacting [enquiries@ewblindgolf.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ewblindgolf.co.uk)

## Free Pilates Classes

Based in Woodbrough, SN9. Emma is looking to offer free Pilates classes to people who are blind / partially sighted. Contact Emma 07971 880695. Limited spaces available.

## RNIB Telephone Groups

* Gardening Group Talk everything gardening. Every two weeks on Tuesdays from 11am to 12 noon.
* Book Group. Different book each month. Third Tuesday of the month

[Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk) or 07761 328571.

[George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk](mailto:George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk) [Tricia.sail@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Tricia.sail@rnib.org.uk)

## Find a Sensory Walk Near You

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 waling route. Call Sense: 0300 330 9256 or visit [www.sense.org.uk/our-services/](http://www.sense.org.uk/our-services/)Local Audio

# Support Groups and Courses

## Dry eye | Digital Glaucoma Support Group (online)

Join the Digital Glaucoma Support Group: all about dry eye, a condition that affects many people with glaucoma. They will be joined by Dan Calladine, OcuPlan Founder and Consultant Ophthalmologist. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session.

Contact the helpline on to book 01233 64 81 70.

Contact Robyn Asprey on [r.asprey@glaucoma.uk](mailto:r.asprey@glaucoma.uk)

## RNIB Living with Sight Loss Course

Covering a broad range of subjects relating to sight loss including confident tips for everyday living, eye health, magnification, lighting and technology, wellbeing and much more. Upcoming course dates:

### Living Well with Sight Loss Phone Group

**Session 1:** Monday June 10th

**Session 2:** Wednesday June 12th

**Session 3:** Monday June 17th

**Session 4:** Wednesday June 19th

Times: 11am

**Session 1:** Friday 7th June

**Session 2:** Friday 14th June

**Session 3:** Friday 21st June

**Session 4:** Friday 28th June

Times: 11am

**Session 1:** Tuesday 2nd July

**Session 2:** Thursday 4th July

**Session 3:** Tuesday 9th July

**Session 4:** Thursday 11th July

**Times**: 11am

### Money Matters Focus Group

**Session 1:** Tuesday 11th June

**Session 2:** Thursday 13th June

**Session 3:** Tuesday 18th June

**Session 4:** Thursday 20th June

Times: 11am

### Focus on Technology

**Session 1:** Wednesday 3rd July

**Session 2:** Friday 5th July

Times: 11am

[George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk](mailto:George.Hinton@rnib.org.uk) 07711 188292

[Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Bernice.Cocking@rnib.org.uk)  07761 328571

[Tricia.Sail@rnib.org.uk](mailto:Tricia.Sail@rnib.org.uk) 078439 79975.

## 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.

This meeting will be held online via Zoom, the next Session is on Tuesday 11th June 7pm to 8pm.

Register now on this link [Retina UK Peer Support Group](https://retinauk.org.uk/event/bristol-bath-wilts-local-peer-support-group/)

Call [0300 111 4000](tel:0300%20111%204000) or contact [Mark.Baxter@retinauk.org.uk](mailto:Mark.Baxter@retinauk.org.uk) for more information.

## Retina UK ‘Talking’ Travel Peer Support Group Meeting

This group will give you the opportunity to share your travelling experience, tips, hints & advice from general mobility, including white cane and guide dog training, to public transport and V.I Activity Holidays to Travelling abroad. Please come along to meet other like-minded travellers & day trippers across the UK via this online meeting and share your pros & cons of getting out and about or fears & frustrations of travelling with sight loss. Contact [Mark.Baxter@retinauk.org.uk](mailto:Mark.Baxter@retinauk.org.uk) for more information.

# Described Arts Events

## Salisbury Playhouse

**Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap 70th Anniversary Tour**

Runing fromMon 1st July  to Sat 6th July

* Thursday 4th July 7:30pm - Audio Described

Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap is the world’s longest-running play. This thrilling West End production is the genre-defining murder mystery from the best-selling novelist of all time… case closed!

**Other Audio Described Shows at Salisbury Playhouse:**

12 September – Birdsong

17 October – Sones in His Pockets

31 October – Play On!

17 and 19 December – Sleeping Beauty

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Tel: 01380 723682, Email: info@wiltshiresight.org

Wiltshire Sight is a registered charity no 1119462. Registered Office: St Lucy’s Sight Centre, Browfort, Bath Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2AT