Eye Can Bristol 2024

9th of October 2024, 10am to 3.30pm (last entry 2.45pm)

BAWA Health & Leisure Club, 589 Southmead Rd, Bristol, BS34 7RG

0117 322 4885 info@sightsupportwest.org.uk

Sight Support West of England is a registered charity 1178384

# Eye Can Bristol 2024 – Welcome!

Thank you for attending Eye Can Bristol, brought to you by Sight Support West of England. This exhibition is designed to bring you the latest in technology and services from across the UK. We would like to thank our Sponsors Optelec and Humanware who have helped make this exhibition possible.

## About Sight Support West of England

Sight Support West of England offer services to blind and partially sighted people across Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

We aim to improve the quality of life of all blind and partially sighted people in the region. We want to ensure everyone has the chance to live well no matter how their sight loss affects them.

To achieve this, we offer a wide range of services including our many local Community Sight Loss Advice hubs held across the region. We provide information, advice and guidance on all aspects of living with sight loss. We can also demonstrate assistive equipment. Our other services include technology training, social and sporting opportunities, an audio library and much more.

If you would like to find out more about Sight Support West of England or to book an appointment with one of our Sight Loss Advisors, please call 0117 322 4885 or email info@sightsupportwest.org.uk

Further information can also be found on our website: [sightsupportwest.org.uk](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/)

# Guest Speakers

We are pleased to welcome guest speakers to our Exhibition.  Each talk will take place in the Concorde Room.  For more information, please ask one of our team.

## 10.30 am Ask the Expert: Amar Shah

Amar is a Trustee for Sight Support West of England and a leading Optometrist working in the West of England. He will be taking your questions and helping to correct any myths around sight loss and explaining the support and treatment that is out there.

## 11.45 am Yahya Pandor

Yahya Pandor is Engagement Manager for the Sight Loss Council. He is also a trained counsellor and renowned advocate for the blind, who is also blind himself. He will share his story including how he recently made a new world record and how he lives well with sight loss. He will also answer your questions.

## 1:30 pm Ignite Bristol – low intensity chair-based fitness taster session

Come and take part in this free chair-based, low-intensity fitness taster session. Instructors are experienced at supporting blind and partially sighted individuals within their sessions and will adapt the activities to your level to ensure everyone is having fun! No equipment needed, and please wear clothes that you are comfortable in.

# Exhibitors List

(See Appendix 1 for the list in numerical order)

## Host Exhibitors

Sight Support – Community Sight Loss Advice - Stand 5

Sight Support Shop Stop - Concorde Room / Refreshments Area

Sight Support Tech Support Service - Concorde Room / Refreshments Area

## Sponsor Exhibitors

Humanware - Stand 8

Optelec - Stand 3

## Other Exhibitors

AbilityNet - Stand 18

Associated Optical - Stand 2

Blind Veterans - Stand 24

Bristol Dementia Action Alliance - Stand 20

Centre for Deaf & Hard of Hearing - Stand 23

Computer Room Services - Stand 26

Dolphin Computer Access - Stand 9

Doro UK - Stand 4

Healthwatch South Gloucestershire - Stand 7

Ignite Bristol - Stand 10

Kerataconus Group - Stand 17

Macular Society - Stand 13

New College Worcester - Stand 14

Nystagmus Network - Stand 25

Professional Vision Services - Stand 1

RNIB - Stand 28

Seeable Holidays - Stand 16

Sight and Sound Technology Ltd - Stand 11

Sight Loss Council - Stand 21

Sight Research UK - Stand 12

Synapptic Ltd - Stand 6

Touchpoint Vision - Stand 27

UWE Bristol Eye Clinic - Stand 19

VICTA - Stand 22

VisionAid Technologies Ltd - Stand 15

# Exhibitor Guide

The following guide contains contact information for all the organisations exhibiting at the Eye Can Bristol 2024 event.

We would like to thank our sponsors, Optelec and Humanware, for helping us to bring this event to you.

## Host

### Sight Support West of England - Sight Loss Advice

Stand 5

0117 322 4885 [sightsupportwest.org.uk](https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/)

Your local sight loss charity working across Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset.

Visit us at the back of the main hall. Our Sight Loss Advice team will be available to offer information and guidance on all things sight loss related. You can find out about the many ways we can support you, so please do pop by to say hello and find out more.

### Sight Support West of England – Shop Stop

In the Concorde Room / Refreshments Area, you will find our Shop Stop where you will be able to purchase things from our 2024 collection, including an early bird discount on Christmas cards, and pick up an early Christmas gift!

### Sight Support West of England Tech Support Service

In the Concorde Room / Refreshments Area

Our Tech Support Service is available at our monthly hubs held across the region. We offer ‘Have A Go’ sessions, Beginners & Improvers Smartphone & Tablet Training courses and appointments for 1-1 support. Come along and see how we can help you.

# Exhibitors

## Health and Wellbeing

### Blind Veterans UK

Stand 24

01454 617920 supporter.services@blindveterans.org.uk

Blind Veterans UK is a military charity which supports veterans with sight loss and helps them to lead an independent life.

### Keratoconus Group

Stand 17

020 8993 4759 [keratoconus-group.org.uk](https://www.keratoconus-group.org.uk/)

The charity provides information and support to people with Keratoconus.

### Macular Society

Stand 13

0300 3030 111 [macularsociety.org](https://www.macularsociety.org/)

The Macular Society is a national charity supporting anyone living with a macular condition. We provide free information to anyone living with a macular condition including their friends and family.

### Nystagmus Network

Stand 25

01427 718093 [nystagmusnetwork.org](https://nystagmusnetwork.org/)

Nystagmus is a complex eye condition, characterised by wobbling or flickering of the eyes. We provide support and information, raise awareness and fund research. Our vision is for a world in which nystagmus is consistently and fully understood and supported in all environments.

### RNIB

Stand 28

0303 123 9999 [rnib.org.uk](https://www.rnib.org.uk/)

RNIB, the Royal National Institute of Blind People, is the UK's leading sight loss charity. We offer practical and emotional support to blind and partially sighted people, their families and carers.

### Sight Research UK

Stand 12

0117 325 7757 hello@sightresearchuk.org

At Sight Research UK, our mission is to beat sight loss faster. We’re the only UK charity to focus our efforts exclusively on fighting sight loss through research, which is critical to turning scientific theories into real-life treatments. We actively invest in research into eye conditions affecting all ages.

## Local Support

### Bristol Dementia Action Alliance (BDAA)

Stand 20

07741 142701 [bdaa.org.uk](https://bdaa.org.uk/)

BDAA’s objective is to make Bristol THE dementia aware city of the UK by running dementia awareness sessions / workshops for businesses, schools, children’s groups, community groups, faith groups, care homes - in fact, anyone wishing to engage. We also support memory cafes for people with dementia and their carers.

### Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People

Stand 23

0117 9398653 [cfd.org.uk](https://cfd.org.uk/)

Our mission is to create fair access and improve the quality of life for all people with hearing loss and provide emotional and practical support for all affected by hearing loss. We can provide council-funded equipment for people in the Bristol area with hearing loss.

### Healthwatch South Gloucestershire

Stand 7

01454 506176 [healthwatchsouthglos.co.uk](https://www.healthwatchsouthglos.co.uk/)

Healthwatch South Gloucestershire is your health and social care champion. Share your experiences with GPs, hospitals, dentists, pharmacies, care homes and support services. We ensure NHS leaders listen to feedback to improve care standards, and we can also help you find reliable information and advice.

### Ignite Bristol

Stand 10

0117 450 9805 info@ignitebristol.co.uk

The Ignite Bristol network is a collaboration between local, regional and national partners focused on improving inclusive sport and physical activity in Bristol. We want to make finding suitable, local active opportunities as easy as possible. Come and speak to us to find out what sport and physical activity opportunities are available to you.

### Sight Loss Council

Stand 21

0208 995 0880 [sightlosscouncils.org.uk](https://www.sightlosscouncils.org.uk/)

Sight Loss Councils, funded by the Thomas Pocklington Trust, are regional groups led by blind and partially sighted volunteers. Together, we use our lived experience to tackle the things that really matter to blind and partially sighted people every day.

### UWE Bristol Eye Clinic

 Stand 19

0117 328 3300 [uwe.ac.uk/eyeclinic](https://www.uwe.ac.uk/life/campus-and-facilities/eye-clinic)

UWE Bristol Eye Clinic offers comprehensive eye health checks and Low Vision assessments to the visually impaired and those with low vision, as a complimentary or alternative service to the eye hospital system. The service is used to enhance the learning and training of our 3rd year Optometry degree students. This service is run in collaboration with Sight Support West

 of England.

## Technology

### Humanware – Sponsor

Stand 8



01933 415800    [humanware.com](https://www.humanware.com/en-united_kingdom/home)

HumanWare provides a range of low-vision and blindness products including our Explore range of portable handheld electronic magnifiers and our Reveal range of foldable desktop electronic magnifiers.  We also have the Hark Reader - our simple and easy-to-use document reader that turns printed text into speech immediately.

### Optelec - Sponsor

Stand 3



0800 145 6115 [lowvisionshop.co.uk](https://lowvisionshop.co.uk/)

Optelec are one of the UK’s leading manufacturers of Low Vision Solutions. Our four brands cover the full spectrum of low vision, from newly diagnosed to complete blindness. Our mission is simple: we want to supply the best-suited equipment for a particular individual in order to enhance quality of life and give independence.

### AbilityNet

Stand 18

0300 180 0028 [AbilityNet.org.uk](https://abilitynet.org.uk/)

AbilityNet's friendly technology volunteers provide free IT (information technology) support to older people and disabled people of any age, anywhere in the UK. Every volunteer is disclosure-checked and can help with all sorts of IT challenges, from setting up new equipment, fixing technical issues, showing you how to stay connected to family, using online services and much more.

### Associated Optical

Stand 2

01628 600410 [associatedoptical.com](https://www.associatedoptical.com/)

We are the UK partner of Eschenbach Optik, Nuremberg, Germany. Since 1983 Associated Optical, Eschenbach’s UK partner, has sought to provide eye-care professionals with innovative magnification devices to further enhance their patient care. Working closely with all of our key manufacturers and education team, our aim is to inspire our customers to further improve people’s lives using patient-centered optical solutions.

### Computer Room Services Ltd

Stand 26

01438 742286 [comproom.co.uk](https://www.comproom.co.uk/)

We sell goods to blind and visually impaired people and provide technical support.

### Dolphin Computer Access

Stand 9

01905 754577 [yourdolphin.com](https://yourdolphin.com/)

Dolphin assistive technology products are designed to improve accessibility and independence on computers and other devices for people with a wide range of visual impairments and neurodiversity. Our mission is to improve people’s quality of life and equitable experiences at home, work and school.

### Doro UK

Stand 4

0800 0265479 [doro.com](https://www.doro.com/)

At Doro, we are dedicated to helping seniors live a better life. We develop easy-to-use technology products that make it simpler for seniors to keep in touch with friends and family, as well as be active members of society despite the challenges that can come with age.

### Professional Vision Services

Stand 1

01462 420751 [professional-vision-services.co.uk](https://professional-vision-services.co.uk/)

Professional Vision Services market the Magnilink brand of products to include CCTVs, reading machines, handheld devices and braille notetakers.

### Sight and Sound Technology Ltd

Stand 11

0800 085 6055 [sightandsound.co.uk](https://www.sightandsound.co.uk/)

Sight and Sound Technology has been a leading supplier and Master Distributor of Assistive Technology across the UK for over 40 years. We have a vast range of hardware and software solutions for the blind, visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, and people with learning, reading and writing difficulties.

### Synapptic Ltd

Stand 6

0191 909 7909 [Synapptic.com](https://www.synapptic.com/)

Here at Synaptic, we design easy-to-use products that give people with sight loss easy access to mainstream technology, regardless of their previous knowledge or experience

### Touchpoint Vision

Stand 27

07545 951797 [touchpointvision.co.uk](https://touchpointvision.co.uk/)

Orcam specialist since 2018. We offer a bespoke face-to-face service. Come and try the full Orcam range or book a free home demonstration - Orcam Read and Read 3, Orcam MyEye Smart or MyEye Pro. As seen on TV. Special offers on the day.

### VisionAid Technologies

Stand 15

0800 002 5555 [visionaid.co.uk](https://www.visionaid.co.uk/)

VisionAid Technologies Ltd is a family-owned and run business who have been providing solutions to assist partially sighted and blind people since 1996. We have grown to become one of the largest specialist low-vision and blindness product suppliers in the UK.

## Children & Young People

### New College Worcester

Stand 14

01905 763933 [ncw.co.uk](https://www.ncw.co.uk/)

NCW is a national residential school and college for young people aged 11 to 19 who are blind or vision impaired. Every student at NCW has a tailored programme, carefully planned and delivered to meet their individual needs in three key areas; academic achievement, independent living skills and involvement in extracurricular activities at the College and in the community.

### VICTA

Stand 22

01908 240831 [victa.org.uk](https://www.victa.org.uk/)

VICTA is a national charity supporting children and young adults from 0 to 29 with a vision impairment and their families. VICTA’s support, advice and activities enable young people and their families to build skills, develop confidence and help each other toward a more positive future.

## Sport and Leisure

### Seable Holidays

Stand 16

020 3375 6947 [Seable.co.uk](https://seable.co.uk/)

Seable’s mission is to provide accessible, tailored holidays to the visually impaired community. Amazing and inclusive trips that can improve your well-being with our local trained assistance and tailored activities to suit your needs and enjoy a stress-free holiday.

# Sight Support West of England – Our Services

In addition to our Sight Loss Advice service, we wanted to shine a spotlight on other services we offer so you know the different ways we can support you.

**Social connections**

Staying connected can be a challenge when living with sight loss. We have various social groups, and we offer one-to-one introductions. We can connect you with local groups such as the Macular Society. And soon we will be launching online socials to connect with others from home.

**News and updates**

Our twice-yearly magazine is packed with useful articles. And our monthly email updates you on our activities, as well as other accessible events, notices and groups.

**Audio Library**

If reading is challenging, listening to books can be a great alternative. Our free audio library service has CD books across various genres, ensuring there's something for everyone to enjoy.

**Technology training and support**

We offer ‘Have a Go’ sessions as well as beginner and improver courses to help you get online and make the most of technology. Training is also available at many of our hubs.

**Knowledge Hub**

Our website is full of useful articles, looking at many aspects of living with sight loss. We offer information, tips and tricks and helpful resources.

**Audio described exercise**

We have produced audio-described exercise classes available online through our Knowledge Hub or on a USB stick.

**Sight Loss Awareness**

We offer training for companies and organisations to help them understand the issues faced by blind and partially sighted people and how they can be more inclusive.

Contact us for more information about any of our services

# Sight Support West of England – Support In Your Community

Meet with a Community Sight Loss Advisor at many locations across the regions we cover for support and guidance. There will be a selection of equipment to trial. Additionally, many hubs have social groups taking place at the same time. Some hubs allow drop-ins during designated times or have appointment slots available, while others are appointment only hubs. Please check with us for details or to book your appointment.

Sight Loss Hubs across Bristol, Bath & NE Somerset and South Gloucestershire:

* Bath
* Bedminster
* Bradley Stoke
* Chew Valley
* Fishponds
* Henleaze
* Keynsham
* Kingswood
* Midsomer Norton
* Thornbury
* Whitchurch
* Yate

We can also let you know about accessible social groups and events from other organisations that take place across the region so do get in touch..

# Volunteer With Us

We are always looking for friendly and dedicated people to join our team of volunteers. We have a variety of roles available, so whatever skills and experience you have, we’d love to hear from you.

**Wanted!**

**Hub & Social Group Volunteers**

We are looking for friendly, outgoing individuals to help at our hubs or facilitate our social groups, supporting existing ones or establishing new groups where needed.

**Community Representatives**

We are looking for people to help raise awareness of our vital services within their local area to increase our reach and support.

**Event Supporters**

We need all kinds of support at our events – guide walking, car park attendants or selling Christmas cards.

We have a range of roles available. Accessibility is very important to us.  We are very happy to discuss how to make any volunteer role accessible to you.  We can provide training if you’re looking to develop new skills.  And of course, there will be lots of support from our friendly team.

If you’d like an informal chat about opportunities, please pop by to our Sight Loss Advisor stand at the back of the hall or you can email volunteering@sightsupportwest.org.uk or call our Volunteer Coordinator, Becs, on 07849 833 047.

# Eye Can Bristol 2024 Thank You

Thank you to our sponsors, Optelec and Humanware, for supporting this event. We also would like to thank all the supporters who make our work possible.

We are a local charity and receive no government funding for our work. We can only help people because of our generous donors.

There are many ways you can support us including fundraising for us, sponsored challenges or joining our lottery. To find out more about donating or volunteering, please come along to our stand and have a chat or contact us using the details below.

You can post us a cheque or go online to make your donation at <https://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/donate/>

# Get in touch:

Visit our website at: sightsupportwest.org.uk

Email us at: info@sightsupportwest.org.uk

Call us on: 0117 322 4885

Find us at: Sight Support West of England, The Vassall Centre, Gill Ave, Fishponds, BS16 2QQ.

Sight Support West of England is a registered charity number 1178384.

# Appendix 1 – Exhibitor list in numerical order

Concorde Room / Refreshments Area: Sight Support Shop Stop and Sight Support Tech Support Service

Stand 1: Professional Vision Services

Stand 2: Associated Optical

Stand 3: Optelec

Stand 4: Doro UK

Stand 5: Sight Support – Sight Loss Advice

Stand 6: Synapptic Ltd

Stand 7: Healthwatch South Gloucestershire

Stand 8: Humanware

Stand 9: Dolphin Computer Access

Stand 10: Ignite Bristol

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