

OAB Newsletter

November 2011

Successful Challenges

My report includes some interesting and successful challenges. Firstly, nine marathons in nine days! Is that possible, I hear you say? Actually, yes it is, as evidenced by our own Ben Allcock in September on his marvellous effort to raise funds for OAB's Future Vision project. I'll leave Ben's article to talk about the experience, which I'm sure you'll be interested in. Well done to Ben and also to the nine runners who successfully completed the Oxford Half Marathon on our behalf, including our new part-time fundraiser, Laura Howdill, who joined the team in August.

Events like these have helped to progress the fundraising for Future Vision, the project to build a new Resource Centre for Visually Impaired People. A project which is rapidly becoming a reality. As I write, the walls are beginning to go up, and the team and I are excited to see the Centre taking shape. Those of you who have been involved in building work before will not be surprised to learn that we did have a hiccup. After the discovery of a gas main, we had a delay while it was re-routed. We're back on track now. The roof should

be on by Christmas and we hope to begin the new services in April.

We heard about two other successful challenges from the speaker, at our AGM, Jan Meek, who used to work for OAB. The meeting was a very enjoyable occasion and Jan rounded it off nicely with a fascinating talk about her journey rowing across the Atlantic Ocean and her trek to the North Pole. I wonder what else past team members have been getting up to! At the AGM, all of the existing Trustees were re-elected. They will continue to guide and support the organisation in the coming exciting year.

I'd also like to introduce you to another new member of the team. Fiona McNally joined us in September, also working on fundraising and assisting the Director. Both Fiona and Laura have settled in very quickly and are clearly keen to do all they can for the benefit of our service users. Sadly, we will soon be saying goodbye to Ben, who is leaving for pastures new. We thank Ben for all of his efforts for us and wish him well in the future.

Meanwhile, the other members of our dedicated team are continuing to provide our services, from a rather

Appointments

In order to give you the best possible service, we need to know when you are coming to see us. Then we can ensure that the right person is here to give you the best possible help. This is even more important now due to the restrictions placed on our resources by the building project. So, we would be very grateful if you could please ring us on 01865 725595 and make an appointment before you visit! ■■■

Membership

I am prompted to remind everybody that the Annual Membership subscription is an easy way to show that you support Oxfordshire Association for the Blind. Your support is vital and gives us a stronger mandate to work for you and membership gives you a vote at our AGM. For more information please look at pages 8 and 9. ■■■

Keeping it short and sharp

TWO abbreviations appear in every newsletter. **OAB** is our pet name for The Oxfordshire Association for the Blind and **VIP** stands for visually impaired person and its other meaning is just as relevant! ■■■

The Oxfordshire Association for the Blind

Registered Charity No.1140556 and Company Limited by Guarantee No. 07465300

**Bradbury Lodge, Gordon Woodward Way, Rivermead Park,
Abingdon Road, Oxford, OX1 4XL.**

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E-mail : vision@oxeyes.org.uk ● Web site : www.oxeyes.org.uk ●

Opening hours 9-4pm weekdays (24 hour message service)

Chair **David Warr** Vice-chair **Adrian Hill** Treasurer **Amanda Tilley**

Director **Colin Cure** Administrator **Sarah Milrose**

Accounts **Michael Ling** Home Support Officer **Marian Small**

Group Welfare Officer **Mary Gregory** Information Worker **David Thompson**

Sight Advisory Desk **Judith Wood** Volunteer Co-ordinator **Ana Novakovic** (*Wed and Friday*)

Fund-raiser **Laura Howdill**, Fund-raiser **Ben Allcock** ,Fundraiser/Assistant **Fiona McNally**

Your Newsletter is compiled and edited by David Thompson

*We are extremely grateful for the assistance of Neil Stockton at Radio Cherwell
for his assistance in producing the audio edition of this Newsletter*

cramped base. Our volunteer visitors are also out visiting visually impaired people in Oxford and Banbury. I recently went along to a training course for new volunteers run by our Coordinator, Ana. I met a very enthusiastic group of new volunteers who were keen to learn how best to assist visually impaired people. They are a great bunch and I'm sure they are going to make a valuable contribution to our service. Once again, I'd like to thank all of our volunteers who help the team with tasks as diverse as home visiting, advising at our Sight Desk, administration, fundraising, newsletter packing, organising and assisting at groups, and more.

By the time you receive this newsletter, I'm sure you'll be preparing for Christmas. I do hope that you have a nice festive season. Thank you once again to everyone who has made this year a special one for OAB. Colin Cure. ■■■

World Sight Day

World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness to focus global attention on blindness, visual impairment and rehabilitation of visually impaired people held on the second Thursday in October. World Sight Day is observed around the world by groups involved in preventing visual impairment or restoring sight.

This year it fell on 13 October and was marked by the Oxfordshire Sensory Impairment Team as they raised awareness of Visual Impairment at the Westgate Centre in Oxford. ■■■

Can't see your computer screen?



Don't get angry, get access!



Do you struggle to see what's on your computer screen? If so, help is at hand because OAB's IT support project is now up and running!

OAB can send an IT Support Volunteer to your home to make some adaptations to your computer. You'd be surprised how much difference a few simple changes can make – things like enlarging the size of type and icons, adjusting the screen resolution or choosing different colours. And all without paying for expensive software!

All our volunteers are trained and police-checked, and they'll arrange to visit at a mutually convenient time.

If you'd like to find out more, just give us a ring and speak to Ana (Volunteer Coordinator). Or you can email us on volunteers@oxeyes.org.uk ■■■

Our QR code



For more information call David on 01865 725595. ■■■

Run Oxfordshire

It was with stinging feet, stiff legs, a painful pelvis, but a happy and full heart that on Sunday 25th September I completed my “Run Oxfordshire” challenge to run nine marathons in nine days. I did this to raise funds for, and awareness of, OAB – a charity which means so much to me and, I’m sure, to many of you reading or listening to this newsletter.

It was a great adventure. It began in Banbury on Saturday 17th when I was waved off by the Town Mayor to set off on my first marathon at around 10am. Over the next few days, I ran a spiral around the county, through more than one hundred towns, villages and hamlets, in the rough order of Chipping Norton, Faringdon, Didcot, Henley-on-Thames, Thame, Bicester, Witney, Abingdon and Oxford.

I was blown away by the support that I received during the challenge. Friends cycled with me to carry my kit; others hosted me on my overnight stays; local masseurs gave their services to me for free to help alleviate the pain in my legs...I was even helped by a lady in Towersey who let me use her toilet when I was caught short running through the town!

The challenge ended with the new Oxford Half Marathon. Among the 2,000 other runners were nine wonderful people who ran as OAB ambassadors, including OAB’s new Fundraiser Laura Howdill. A big “thank you” therefore to Brendan, Laura G, Sarah, Tim, Tom H, Tom P, Ryan and Steve. I’d also like to thank

Kali and Sam, who entered the Half Marathon but were sadly unable to run due to injury. It was a fantastic feeling to run with them, and together they all raised over £1,000 for the cause!

I’m delighted to report that, at the time of writing, the Run Oxfordshire challenge has raised well over £3,500 for OAB, plus gift aid, which is clearly fantastic. I was also lucky enough to regularly appear on BBC Oxford Radio and BBC South Today TV, with each interview providing a great opportunity to talk about OAB and the cause of people with sight impairment in Oxfordshire. You can hear some of the interviews and TV clips at our www.oxeyes.org.uk website. If you are inspired to make a donation of your own, then the website to do so is www.virginmoneygiving.com/benallcock. You are also, of course, very welcome to send a cheque to OAB at the usual address: Bradbury Lodge, Gordon Woodward Way, Oxford, OX1 4XL. Thank you to all readers who have already made a donation.

As some of you may already be aware, I will soon leave OAB to live in London. My hope is that Run Oxfordshire worked as a “farewell present” to help promote OAB to more potential service users and supporters around the county. I feel very lucky to have worked with OAB as a Fundraiser, having previously volunteered for the charity and I am looking forward to helping out by making more donations of my own to OAB in the future. *see next page*

I would like to end my article by thanking the many of you reading this, as well as the many people associated with OAB who sadly cannot be with us now, who have touched me in some way during my four years here. It has been an absolute honour to be this charity's Fundraiser. I am very excited by OAB's future with Fiona and Laura working together on a part-time basis to raise as much funds as possible for OAB; I know that you will enjoy getting to know them as they settle in. Thank you. Ben.



Talking Thames

At the moment Thame and the surrounding area does not have a Talking Newspaper provided on cassette, CD or another format.

We have discussed this with Oxford Talking News and they have asked us to try and find out if there would be a demand for such a service. So if you live in the Thame area and would like to receive a local talking newspaper please let us know at Oxfordshire Association for the Blind 01865 725595.



Make every day a diary day!

It's time to think about ordering your large print calendars, address books and diaries for next year.

Call Sarah 01865 725595 to order yours now.



South Pacific

by Rogers and Hammerstein

The winner of 7 Tony Awards, smash hit Broadway and London production South Pacific comes to Oxford New Theatre this December and on Thursday 8th December starting at 2.30pm there will be an Audio Described performance. Considered one of the finest musicals ever written, the score includes Some Enchanted Evening and There is Nothin' like a Dame. For more information or to book seats please call 01865 320770.



Pantomime Season is nearly here

"Oh no it isn't, Oh yes it is!"

Christmas is a-coming . . . so it will soon be time for pantomime.

One of the best traditional pantos, Mother Goose, is back on at the Oxford Playhouse stage this festive season and the audio described performance is on Saturday 7th January at 2.30pm. Don't forget that you can ask the Playhouse to put you on the mailing list for their audio brochure – so you can keep up to date on all their audio described productions.



Did you know?

A newborn baby sees the world upside down until the baby's brain learns to turn the picture right-side up.



New Police contact number 101 is here

The 101 non-emergency number will provide you with a single, easy to remember number for you to call to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency police response.

You will be able to call 101 to report a crime that has already happened and any other incidents or concerns that do not require an emergency response. You can also call it to speak to your local Safer Community Team, to make a general enquiry or make the service aware of any policing issues in your local area.

The 101 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and will be adopted by every police force in England by early 2012. ■■■

New NHS 111 contact number coming soon

Oxfordshire residents will be among the first in the south of England to be able to phone the new NHS 111 number.

The freephone number is for people that need medical help but not necessarily emergency aid.

The project is due to start in Oxford in February and roll out to the rest of the county afterwards. Trained advisors will assess calls and act accordingly which will usually mean advice or directing callers to out-of-hours doctors, urgent care centres, emergency dentists or late-opening chemists where appropriate

Of course until the new service is available you can call to call NHS Direct on 0845 4647. ■■■

Remember to use 999 in an emergency

Don't forget that 999 should still be used in an emergency, such as when a crime is happening, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, someone is injured, being threatened or a life is at risk, or there is a traffic incident involving personal injury or danger. ■■■

Our sincere thanks to all donors

We are very grateful for all donations, whether given in support of the day to day running of the Association or toward a specific project or in memory of a loved one.

Every donation is very much appreciated. ■■■

Close to the Bone

Uncovering the secrets
of human skeletons.

Did you know you can tell the age, sex and much more about human bones just by feeling them? Come along to Oxford Natural History Museum for this free workshop and discover just what ancient bones can tell us by touch alone.

Saturday 21st January
Oxford University Museum of
Natural History, Parks Road, OX1
3PW, from 10.30-12.30 (arrival and
tea/coffee from 10).

Although this session is free there
are limited places available so if you
are interested, don't delay. Please
call 01865 282456 or email
outreach@oum.ox.ac.uk to book a
place.   

VIVA

Vision Impaired, Visually Active is a
group for visually impaired people
with active mind. It meets on the
second Tuesday of each month at
2.00pm in the North Oxford
Association, Community Centre,
Diamond Place, Summertown,
Oxford. We have an interesting and
varied programme for the months
ahead.

For further details ring
Ron Sears on 01865 553063.



Tomb with a view

Egyptian Handling session for
VIPs at the Ashmolean

A visit to the museum was always
interesting and enjoyable, writes
David Thompson, but I always felt
distanced from the artifacts, not just
by the separation in time, but also
the fact that the objects were always
just out of reach and frequently just
out of range of my vision. So it was
with great joy I received this article
from Clare Coleman the Education
Officer at the Ashmolean Museum in
Oxford telling us about an
opportunity to get “up close and
personal” with some Egyptian
artefacts. The free session on
December 16th from 10:30 - 12:00,
meeting in the Randolph Sculpture
Gallery, will include a visit to the new
Egyptian Galleries which will open
on November 26th. Participants will
be able to get a close look at a few
large pieces on display in the
galleries that form a touch tour - a
sarcophagus lid, a sculpture of
Amon Ra as a ram and so on, as well
as some smaller handling objects,
for example amulets and statuettes,
that we will handle in the Education
Studio. Finally, we shall have some
refreshments. The numbers of
places are limited so please phone
ahead to let Clare know you are
interested. For more information
and to book your place please
contact Clare on 01865 288 077 or
Email:clare.coleman@ashmus.ox.ac.uk



Membership and donation

If you are **eligible**, please Gift Aid your payment by signing the declaration below. In **all cases**, please complete your name and address details. If you wish to pay by standing order, please also complete the separate form overleaf and return to us at:

**The Oxfordshire Association for the Blind,
Bradbury Lodge, Gordon Woodward Way,
Oxford, OX1 4XL.**

Membership

Please tick the appropriate box/es

Member

(£5.00 annually)

Friend

(£20.00 annually)

Life Member

(£250.00)

Donation

 £5 £10 £20 £50 £100

Other amount £.....

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Please tick the appropriate box

Please treat this payment as a Gift Aid donation

Please treat all membership/donations that I make from the date of this declaration, until otherwise notified, as Gift Aid donations

I pay Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the OAB reclaims on membership/donations in the appropriate tax year. I will inform the OAB when this is no longer the case.

Signed

Date.....

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

OAB Oxfordshire Association for the **Blind**

1877-2011

Helping blind people
for 134 years

Bradbury Lodge, Gordon Woodward Way, Abingdon Road,
Oxford, OX1 4XL.

Phone : 01865 725595 Fax : 01865 725596

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To the Manager:.....Bank plc

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Please pay to **CAF Bank plc, 25 Kings Hill Avenue,
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Sort Code **40-52-40**

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Account number is **00015471**

The sum of £..... (in words).....

on theday of20.....

and the same sum on the same day in each succeeding
month / quarter / year (*delete as appropriate*) until further
notice and debit my account number

Signed **Date**.....

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____



Have you remembered GiftAid?

We want to meet you at Wantage library!

As many of you will be aware, this year, Oxfordshire Association for the Blind has been linking up with the Oxfordshire Library Service to set up an information desk at a different library in the county for a day. At each venue we have had OAB staff, a range of special equipment for visually impaired people and a selection of info books, newsletters and leaflets.

Even though we are near the end of a very successful programme we are still going to squeeze another date into our busy schedule! This will be the 7th December at Wantage Library

We plan to be there from 10am to 3pm and that you will be able to come along to one of these events.

Please do let us know if you are intending to come along and if there is anything in particular that you would like to talk about or to have a look at and we will do our best to make sure we can help. Just call us on 01865 725595. ■■■

Another Door opens for VIPs

“The Door - the newspaper of the Diocese of Oxford”, will soon be available to blind and partially sighted listeners on memory sticks, as are many other talking newspapers. The Door is produced monthly and includes news particularly from the churches in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire - the three counties which make up the large Diocese of Oxford. Although the news and features relate largely to church life, there is much of interest to the non-churchgoer too - a service to remember 9/11 held in Reading, a tweeting nun and chocolate Christmas tree decorations with pictures from the Christmas story, which are being produced for the first time this year. If you would like to subscribe to The Door, when the new system for recording is in place, or if you would like to know more details, please contact Wendy Bryant, Disability Adviser, on telephone number 01275 848934, or by e-mail: wendy.bryant@oxford.anglican.org.”



The work of the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind is assisted by funds from



The Communicator Guide Service for Deafblind people in Oxfordshire

We are very grateful for this article from Verity Hollingshead from the Sensory Impairment Team of Oxfordshire Social and Community Services

Deafblindness is a condition where a person has both sight and hearing impairment, which causes difficulties with communication, mobility and accessing information. It is a unique disability affecting approximately 23,000 people in the UK and includes people with a progressive sight and hearing loss. A further 250,000 people are thought to have a lesser degree of combined sight and hearing loss.

Deafblindness is sometimes referred to as having a 'dual loss'. There are many different causes; some people are born with a hearing and/or sight loss (congenital) whilst others acquire a loss later in life. Deafblindness occurs in all age groups, but older people make up the largest group.

There is a misconception that being deafblind means having no sight or hearing at all. However, most people who are deafblind have some sight or hearing.

Communicator Guides are specially trained to provide one-to-one support to deafblind people. They act as the eyes and ears of the deafblind person to enable them to be as independent as possible by supporting such clients with communication, mobility and access to information.

They enable deafblind people to make informed decisions by ensuring information (spoken, non-verbal, written and environmental) is

delivered using the deafblind person's preferred communication method/s.

Communicator Guides support with everyday tasks and activities such as:

- **Help with making phone calls, reading mail and other correspondence.**
- **Shopping (i.e help to identify and describe shopping items, read labels, prices).**
- **Going for a walk (guiding support).**
- **One-to-one conversation and social interaction.**
- **Accessing the environment (i.e describe surroundings).**

Through enabling deafblind people to access and participate in activities of their choice, Communicator Guides help to reduce the effects of isolation and promote wellbeing and choice. Support sessions are tailored to the needs of each individual.

A countywide Communicator Guide Service is available through Oxfordshire County Council. If you consider yourself to have a dual loss or know someone who may benefit from the service, please contact the Hearing Impairment Team on:

Tel: 01865 894 925

Email:

hearing.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk



A great couple of months

**Our thanks to Kevin Pamphilon,
Captain of Oxford Spires Bowlers**

On the 9th of September Graham, Laura and Paul played in the Hay Moffat memorial tournament with teams from all over the country and they finished in 1st place. This was the club's first national win.

In October Graham Hall represented Great Britain in the 4th IBSA world championship held in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia. The tournament was a hard fought week with some good bowling from South Korea and Finland where the bowlers had some amazing scores. Graham is the first bowler to represent the club on a national stage. He played well and did Oxford proud.

In November we have one team competing in the BBS Summer pairs final in Swindon with Graham, Chris and Kevin. In December we have our own tournament in Memory of Jonathan Mitchell which is being held in Banbury.

We play at the Bowl Plex in Oxford, near the Kassam Stadium. Although we have some brilliant players, all levels of bowlers are welcome. Contact Kevin Pamphilon club captain. Phone 01869 331778. ■■■

Tribute to Anne James

After a very brave fight with Ovarian Cancer, Anne James, (whose stage names were Chrissie Horn and Kuddly Kim) passed away peacefully on the 20th July 2011.

Those who knew Anne recognised what a zest for life she had. She was a professional dancer who would entertain at any opportunity.

Anne worked tirelessly to support the blind and partially sighted members of our Oxford Visual Impairment Group, OXVIC. I know that the group very much appreciated all that she did to help and entertain them.

She is remembered as a positive and caring person, who loved music and dancing. Many people marvelled at her imitations of Michael Jackson's 'Moon Dancing'. As her son, Paul said, "This was always amusing. She would never quite get it right, but she would lap up the attention and carry on!" The group members certainly did appreciate the act and all of Anne's other entertainment for them.

We are grateful for all that Anne did to support the group. She will be much missed. Colin Cure. ■■■

DAWN - Talking newspaper

(The Didcot, Abingdon and Wantage Talking Newspaper)

Weekly recordings of local news for people living in the area who have difficulty reading newspapers. For more information please contact.

**Chairman Oliver Hemming
01491 680427
chairman@dawntn.org.uk
web-site www.dawntn.org.uk**



Blind Bowlers progress

Congratulations to the North Oxon Blind Bowlers Society, which has 2 Teams who have qualified for the National Pairs Finals in Swindon at the end of this year. We at OAB wish them the very best of luck.

Though some members of this group are participating in competitions on a regular basis, the group is actually a really good opportunity to get out and meet people and have a good time.

If you want to know more contact the Deputy Secretary Chris French on 07760112292. ■■■

Banbury Macular Group

We meet on the Second Thursday of every month from 2 to 4pm at Banbury Methodist Church, Marlborough Road, Banbury, OX16 5BZ. The meetings are open to anyone affected by central vision loss. Carers are welcome too! For further details please contact John Critchlow 01608 685293. ■■■

Banbury Blind Club

Meets alternate Tuesdays 10.30am - 2.00pm at the WRVS Centre. Helpers are always welcome. For more information call Enid Smith on 01295 269568. ■■■

VIBNO

VIBNO is a group for the 18 –50 age group in Oxfordshire to meet socially and have fun.

We meet once a month on the first Wednesday of the month. We alternate between a meeting at a pub and then on the other month we do something completely different.

So if you are a VIP aged between 18 and 50 and want to socialise and have fun with people alike come and join us. Partners, friends and family are welcome to all events.

For more information and details of our programme please contact Nicola Pamphilon 01869 331778 or e-mail flashnp@aol.com ■■■

Wantage Blind Club

A social club for partially sighted and blind people living locally.

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month from February to December at the Wantage Day Centre from 3-5pm where members can socialise over afternoon tea.

A raffle is held and there is often entertainment. There is also an annual outing.

Transport is available by Special Transport Ambulance or in volunteers' cars. For more information call Hazel Aldred on 01235 765849. ■■■

Your chance to help develop “bionic glasses”

Researchers at the University of Oxford are developing a new type of electronic visual aid that may be able to help improve independence of people with severely impaired vision. The visual aid looks like a regular pair of glasses and can be taken on and off just like them. But, built into the frames are two tiny cameras that are used to detect objects in the immediate environment such as people, obstacles and signs. The location of detected objects is indicated to the wearer by illuminating a set of small bright lights that are embedded in the lenses of the glasses. The result is a helpful overlay that augments the wearer's visual limitations with the power of technology. The glasses may be useful to people who have retained even the smallest amount of vision. The researchers have begun testing the glasses at the John Radcliffe Hospital and are looking for participants who might like to take part. The test involves responding to simple lights and colours presented on a small display and will take about one hour.

If you think you might be interested in participating, please call Dr Stephen Hicks on 01865 234 635, or write to us at study@smart-specs.com. This study is being organised by researchers from the Nuffield Department of Clinical

Neurosciences at the University of Oxford and has been reviewed by the National Research Ethics Service. All information collected during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential and you and a companion will be reimbursed for travel expenses and refreshments.



New Scheme for the South

from SODC Outlook Magazine

South Oxfordshire's first 'extra care' scheme for older people will be opened at the former Thame United FC site early next year. The scheme, developed by Soha Housing with the district and country council, aims to offer a greater choice of housing and a better quality of life for older people in the district. With 40 one and two bed flats available, residents have 'their own front door' and the independence to maintain their own routine, but in a safe and secure environment with care staff on site.

A show flat will be open for viewing in the autumn and the first residents are expected to move into the scheme by January next year. The flats can be rented or part owned through 'shared ownership'. For more information contact Soha on 01235 515900.



Clubs and groups for VIPs in Oxfordshire

Abingdon & District Macular Group

Leonie Sims: 01235 520981
Mobile 07872 055495

Banbury Macular Group

John Critchlow 01608 685293

Banbury Society for the Visually Impaired

Enid Smith 01295 269568

Carterton Social Club

Rosemary Gibbens 01993 846825

Chipping Norton Friends of the Blind

Mary Gregory 01608 810899

Didcot/Wallingford OAB affiliated

Pam Organ 01235 813391

Dorothy
Drummond 01235 812614

Henley VIP Group

Mike Pooley 01491 628284

Look Oxfordshire Support for families of VI children

Alison Baker 01235 868262

Kidlington Macular Group

Tom Wright 01865 376482

Marita Ferrett 01865 373104

Oxford Macular Group

Daphne Dorman 01993 811084

“OXVIC”

Oxford Visually Impaired Club

OAB 01865 725595

‘Oxpots Pottery Class

Christopher Barry 01608 730407

Thame and District Society for the Visually Handicapped

Norman Lilley 01844 261041

VIBNO

Visually Impaired But Not Old!

Nicola & Kevin
Pamphilon 01869 331778

VIVA, North Oxford

Liaison Officer
Ron Sears 01865 553063

Wantage Blind Social Club

Mary Greenfield 01235 764646
Secretary

Hazel Aldred 01235 765849

Witney Area

Visually Impaired Group

Mandy Bishop 01993 706824

Oxfordshire Social and Community Services

Sensory Impairment Teams

A county-wide team of specially trained staff supporting people of all ages affected by sensory impairment

Manager John Fearn-Webster

Visual Impairment Team

Beverley Downs, Kate Laybourne
Elizabeth Jones, Meg Jones
Serena Glister, Sue Miles
Senior Elizabeth Agar

Telephone 01865 894935

visual.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Communicator Guide for People with Dual Sensory Impairment

Verity Hollingshead

Telephone 01865 894925

SMS - 07713329501

hearing.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Hearing Impairment Team

Zelda Yarker, Catherine Thurbin,
Melissa Mabley, Ben Smith
Rebecca Nolan, Mark Cove
Senior : Neelam Ahmed

Telephone 01865 894925

SMS - 07713329501

hearing.impairment@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Oxfordshire Social & Community Services,

Foxcombe Court,
Wyndyke Furlong,
Abingdon Business Park,
Abingdon, OX14 1DZ



Out of hours social services, emergency freephone 0800 833408



Carers Oxfordshire

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A new service for all carers

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-  To listen to Carers' needs
-  To give information, advice and support to Carers

Please telephone 0845 0507666

Or email carersoxfordshire@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Or go to www.carersoxfordshire.org.uk 