

YorView

The newsletter of MySight York

Summer 2025



A Grand Welcome to our new home

MySight York
live well with sight loss

Reg. Charity No: 1159188

RNIB
Visibly Better
Employer



YorView is the Newsletter of MySight York

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Editor: Barbara Fairs

From the Editor...

Hello and welcome to the Summer edition of YorView.

We have lots of information about things to do this Summer. For young people there is a chance to go sailing on page 14 and everyone can join in with VI Tennis (page 15) or Blind Golf (page 12).

If you would prefer more sedate activities why not give Cuppa and a Chorus a go (page 12) or just have a trip out on the Moorsbus (page 6) to enjoy the North Yorkshire countryside.

As usual there is a round up of the latest equipment (pages 8-9) and Bex has information on a new video magnifier on page 17. You can have a closer look at this and other magnifiers at the Associated Optical Open Day on 2nd July.

We will also be running a series of Consultation Meetings in June and July. Full information in the enclosed letter and on page 20.

In Fundraising News (pages 18-19) Louise tells us about upcoming stalls and we have some fantastic news about Chris Cooper's coast-to-coast fundraiser—please support him if you can.

There is so much to get involved with so whatever you are up to this Summer—enjoy!

Barbara

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From the Chief Executive



As I mark five years as Chief Executive of MySight York, I've taken time to reflect on all that we have faced and achieved together. It has been a period of unprecedented challenge, but also one of progress, resilience, and hope.

I joined the organisation in 2020, just as the pandemic was reshaping all of our lives. Like many charities, we faced enormous uncertainty. Yet from the start, I was inspired by the determination of our community to adapt and keep supporting one another.

Throughout those difficult days, our staff, volunteers, and trustees worked tirelessly to ensure people with sight loss stayed connected and supported.

Since then, we have faced other significant pressures such as the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, which continues to affect the people we serve. Rising costs, strained services, and increasing isolation have created very real challenges.

But together, we have found ways to respond with creativity and care. We have also had to make some difficult decisions to secure our future. One of the most significant was moving to new, more sustainable premises. Leaving our former home was not easy, but the move has helped us safeguard resources and focus on what matters most...delivering essential services.

Thanks to funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, we have grown our work across peer support, activities, technology, and equipment & information services. I am incredibly proud to say that we are now supporting more people than at any time in our 45-year history. Our membership has never been higher, reflecting how vital our services are across York and beyond.

This year, we launched our new three-year strategy, shaped by the voices of our members and partners. Our trustees have provided invaluable leadership in setting our direction, ensuring lived experience remains at the heart of all we do.

None of this would be possible without our supporters and donors. Your trust, generosity, and belief in us make everything possible. Thank you for standing with us. Here's to the next chapter – together.

Scott

York Macular Society Group

The York Macular Group meets on the third Thursday of every other month for members to share advice and tips, listen to informative talks from guest speakers and help with signposting to other services.

The next meeting is **17th July** and this will be held at the MySight York office on Walmgate starting at **2pm**, with a guest speaker from North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to be confirmed.

There is a small charge of £2 to help cover room hire but members do get 6 months free membership of the Macular Society. The group is open to anyone, not just those with MD, so come along, meet new people and hopefully learn something useful at the same time.

St Chad's Tea Concerts 2025

Thursdays at 2.30pm.
About 45 minutes of classical music, then tea and cakes.
Free entry, donations appreciated!

These are dementia-friendly events, everyone welcome!

19 June: Patrick Wilson trumpet, Maria Marshall cello, Robert Gammon piano

17 July: Flauti Felice flute ensemble

14 August: Tina Sanderson and friends string ensemble

St Chad's is at 36 Campleshon Rd, York, YO23 1EY.

There is a small car park, and roadside parking nearby.

Disabled access via Hall.

Enquiries: Alison Gammon, 07914 671620

Children's Indoor Dig

Would you like to find out what's it's like to be an archaeologist?

If so, come along to an Indoor Dig for Children and Young People with a visual impairment as part of the 'York Festival of Ideas'.

This interactive session will be led by archaeologist and broadcaster, Julian Richards and facilitated by the City of York Council Specialist Teaching Team.

Location: Tang Hall Explore
Date: 2nd June (during the school/college) day
Time: 1.15pm - 2.45pm

Parents/Carers or a member of staff must accompany students to the full session.

This promises to be a fun and informative event so if you would like to attend please contact Vicky Colombi at MySight York to book a place

Vicky.colombi@mysightyork.org or call 01904 731124.

Braillists Foundation

This is a small, volunteer-led charity focused on increasing the availability of braille and supporting those who use it. All of their volunteers are blind braille users, and everything they do is free to attend.

They offer:

1. A braille for beginners course, suitable for adults starting out with braille. Materials are sent through the post, and there is access to a set of audio lessons as well as Zoom drop-in sessions with a braille tutor.
2. Masterclasses for existing users, covering things like braille displays, giving presentations using braille, updates to the braille code, and

braille music. Delivered on Zoom every month.

3. A braille book club with different groups based on reading level.
4. Occasional in-person events, like the World Braille Day Conference.
5. A weekly newsletter with braille-related news, events, and opportunities: <https://www.braillists.org/newsletter/>
6. Recordings of events on their podcast, BrailleCast: <https://www.braillecast.com/>
7. The popular Braille Bar. This is a Zoom call where a panel of braille experts are on hand to answer any braille-related questions you may have.

For more information contact help@braillists.org

Moorsbus Network

The Moorsbus is a network of friendly, local bus services designed and operated by a not-for-profit community interest group.

With departures from York, you can access the beautiful North Yorkshire countryside for a maximum fare of £3, or £1 for under 18s, on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays from 3rd May to 28th September 2025.

The M6 runs on Saturdays to Pickering for Rosedale Abbey, Hutton le Hole, Blakey Lion Inn and Danby, leaving York Railway Station at 08.22.

The same service runs on Sundays and Bank Holidays leaving York Railway Station at 08.37.

The M31 runs to Easingwold and Helmsley, where you can change to a Moorsbus for Sutton Bank, Rievaulx Abbey, Great Ayton, Castle Howard and Hovingham.

If you change buses to a new service a new £3 ticket will be required or you can purchase a Moors Rover ticket for day long travel. These cost £10 for adults, £3 for ages 5 to 18 or there is a family ticket for £15 covering 2 adults and up to 4 children. English National Concessionary Passes are also accepted.

Upcoming Events

MySight York Accessible Board Games Group at MySight York Premises 10:30am – 12 noon every Monday. Call 01904 731124 to join.

Sight Loss Saunter with York Conversation Trust and MySight York, 10th June St Anthony's Garden, Peasholme Green 11-3pm (please bring a packed lunch) teas, coffees offered. Please call 01904 731124 to book

External: Sessions for Seniors, at Better, Burnholme Sports Centre Mossdale Avenue York YO31 0HA. If you are aged over 60, why not join 'Session for Seniors' every Wednesday between 10am and 12pm for a social session with a variety of fun activities. To book go to www.better.org.uk/york

Let's Get Active 2025

Following on from the success of similar events in York, Let's Get Active 2025 will be held in Sheffield this year.

Organised by North and South Yorkshire Sight Loss Council the event will take place 12th July 2025 10am – 4pm at Ponds Forge, close to Sheffield station.

Sports will include, VI Tennis, VI Football, VI Baseball, Ballroom Dancing, Goalball, Chair Exercise and Boccia.

The event is free and can be booked at https://pocklington.tfaforms.net/5069029?event=701Pz00000YRqFI&tfa_168=5

Audio Described Performances

The following performances will all be audio described at York theatres

York Theatre Royal
Box Office 01904 623568

The Midnight Bell, Friday 6th June at 7.30pm - a dance theatre production by Matthew Bourne's New Adventures company

His Last Report, Sunday 3rd August at 2pm - a local tale featuring local people about the work of social reformer Seebohm Rowntree

Grand Opera House

To book call 0333 009 5399 for Accessibility Assistance

The Last Laugh, Saturday 14th June 2.30pm - a play imagining the lives of Tommy Cooper, Eric Morecambe and Bob Monkhouse

Dear Evan Hansen, Saturday 21st June 2.30pm - the smash hit musical about the life of a high school kid who just wants to fit in

The Wizard of Oz, Sunday 14th September at 4pm - the much loved musical adventures of Dorothy and her friends somewhere over the rainbow

New in the E&I Centre

Deb and Bex update on the latest equipment

In this edition we share information on a few new products on display for you to try.

Some eye conditions can increase sensitivity to light. Discomfort, eye fatigue and on occasions reduction in useful vision in certain light conditions can decrease your ability to undertake everyday tasks and make you more reluctant to get out and about.

In the Equipment and Information Centre we have a wide range of frames and filters to help you find the balance between reducing sensitivity while still getting enough light to make the most of your vision. Well-fitting frames offers more coverage having top panels and wider arms blocking out the light which often enters at the top and sides of traditional sunglasses .



A brimmed hat, peaked cap or sun visor can give additional protection and give extra shade from above.

The Partially Sighted Society has added a couple of new colours to their sun visor range. Sun visors are available in navy blue, pink or black with adjustable strap, £5.02

New from Optima Low vision

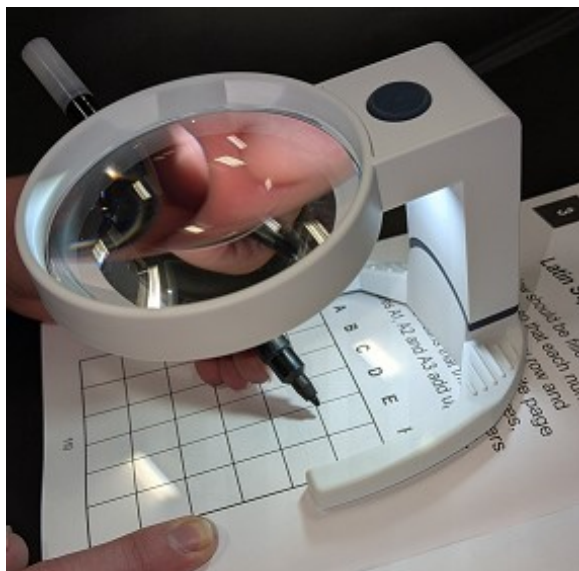
Optima Just read magnifier is a basic handheld video magnifier with a 4.3" LED screen, offering three magnification levels 3x, 5x and 10x. It is simple to use with a one button operation to turn on and off. Supplied with a USB cable the internal battery takes two to charge provides up two hours of use, £89.99



4x Coil Hi Power Illuminated stand magnifier

With two levels of LED brightness, high for enhanced and low to minimize glare, it can be helpful when you need space to write,

read and complete forms, letters, lists, crosswords crafts or viewing photos Also useful for cutting and painting fingernails. It benefits from a simple contact button and has an automatic shut off. Uses 2x AAA batteries



Flexibright from Visionaid

A modern black and silver compact designed LED table lamp with a round base which has a touch on/off & sensitive slider to adjust brightness. It has five selectable LED colour temperatures, from very warm to daylight, with a pivoting head to angle the light to where you need it. It also has an integrated charger socket, ideal for a phone.



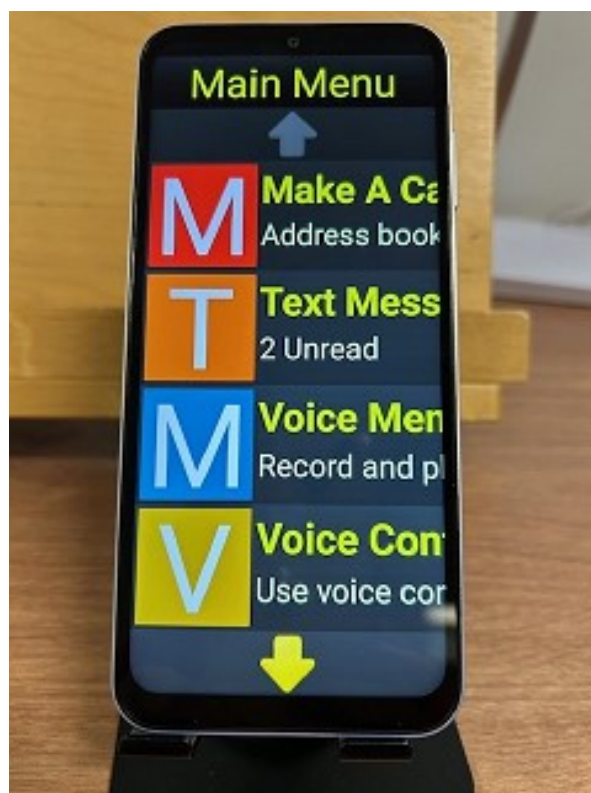
Price
£50.00

Synapptic

Synapptic is a piece of software that makes using an android phone more accessible.

Synapptic simplifies the phone, making the home screen a large menu of available options. It also uses speech to tell you what you have selected or what you are looking at.

The Synapptic also uses simplified finger movements on the screen to make the experience of using the phone or tablet easier. The simplified gestures combined with the device telling you what you are looking at and lets you navigate to where you need to be.



If you would like to explore any of these items please call 01904 636269 to make an appointment with Deb or Bex.

A Grand Opening!

Together in Our New Home – Thank You for Celebrating This Milestone With Us

We are proud and excited to share a truly special moment in the life of MySight York – our official move into our city-centre home at The Press building on Walmgate. After months of preparation, the big day finally arrived on Thursday 10th April, when we opened our doors and welcomed members, friends, partners, and supporters to celebrate this next chapter with us.

Why This Move Matters

Our new home is the result of listening to what our members told us they needed: a central, accessible, welcoming space, easy to reach by public transport, and designed to bring all our services under one roof. We are pleased to say that The Press building ticks every box.

Here, visitors will find everything from equipment demonstrations and assistive technology advice to counselling, transcription services, peer support groups, and social activities. Our new space brings these services together right in the heart of the city.

Importantly, this move also completes our “triangle of support” across York, connecting our Eye Clinic Liaison Officer based at York Hospital, our Sight Support Advice Service at the Community

Stadium, and now this city-centre hub at Walmgate. Wherever someone starts their journey with sight loss, we are now better placed to provide the right support, at the right time, in the right place.

A Grand Opening to Remember

The atmosphere at our Grand Opening event was truly unforgettable. Friends old and new filled the building, and it was a joy to hear the buzz of conversation and laughter filling our new space. Members took tours of the new facilities, explored our equipment and information centre and enjoyed refreshments.

One of the most touching moments of the day was welcoming Anne Smith, one of our founding members, to officially cut the ribbon. Anne has been at the heart of our organisation since our beginnings in 1979, and it was a privilege to have her with us to open this next chapter. It's no exaggeration to say that we simply wouldn't be here today without the foundation she and others built all those years ago. Anne's tireless dedication and belief in community have helped shape MySight York into the organisation it is today. Having her with us on this special day felt like a beautiful bridge between our past and our future.

Designed With You in Mind

We are proud to offer a space that reflects the needs and voices of our members. From soundproofed counselling rooms to our accessible equipment display areas, every part of our new base has been carefully thought out to help people feel welcome, supported, and independent. Moving here has also helped us reduce our running costs, meaning we can put even more of our resources into what matters most – supporting people living with sight loss in our community.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this move possible. From the generosity of The Clothworkers' Foundation, who funded vital adaptations, to the support of our new landlord York Press, who welcomed us into this building, and to Commercial Interiors Solutions for creating such a fantastic space. Thanks also to Teresa and Mike for providing the perfect “moving in” cake from Fred's Home Bakery.

Most of all, thank you to our members, volunteers, funders, and

partners. Your belief in what we do has brought us to this moment, and we are excited to continue this journey together.

Looking Ahead

The future feels bright in our new home. We have so many exciting plans ahead to expand and improve our services. But no matter what the future holds, we remain dedicated to the same mission we have always had...to stand alongside people affected by sight loss, to provide practical help, emotional support, and to build a community where everyone belongs.

If you haven't visited us yet, we'd love to welcome you. Whether you are seeking support, looking to volunteer, or simply curious about what we do, please drop in and say hello. Our doors are open, and the kettle is on.

Thank you again for being part of this special moment in our history.

With warmest wishes,
The Team at MySight York



Community Connect

Louise Calpin and Vicky Colombi update us on upcoming collaborative activities

Blind Golf takes off at York Golf Club

Following the tremendous success of last October's 'Have a Go Day of Blind Golf day, we are launching a new monthly series of Blind Golf sessions in collaboration with York Golf Club and England and Wales Blind Golf (EWBG).

The monthly VI Golf sessions will take place on the last Wednesday of every month. Sessions will run from 2.00pm—3.00pm, with optional tea or coffee available from 1.00pm—2.00pm.



Booking is essential. To book your place as a VI Golfer, or to express interest in volunteering as a caddy, please email hello@mysightyork.org or call 01904 636269 and ask to speak with the Activities team.

We warmly welcome both returning and new participants to take part in this rewarding and inclusive sport.

Cuppa and A Chorus

Join the friendly Cuppa and a Chorus community to sing in a relaxed environment, enjoy a cup of tea & cake and have a chat at The National Centre For Early Music (NCEM).

Led by experienced community musician Chris Bartram, sessions will give you the chance to sing some of the songs you know and love and explore new ones from around the world. You don't need to have sung before or consider yourself musical, just enjoy taking part and singing with other like-minded people.



As part of MySight York's Community Connect project, we have trained The National Centre For Early Music in Sight Loss Awareness, ensuring Cuppa and a Chorus is accessible for people with sight loss.

For more information about Cuppa and a Chorus and to book, please visit the NCEM website: <https://ncem.co.uk/cuppa-chorus>

Guided Sensory Tours at Treasurer's House

By Vicky Smith and Louise Calpin

In early May, the National Trust's Treasurer's House launched their Guided Sensory Tours. Developed in partnership with MySight York, the tours invite guests to explore the historic property through sound, touch and storytelling.

In recognition of this commitment to accessibility, Treasurer's House has been awarded 'Sight Loss Friendly in York' status by MySight York. This endorsement is part of our National Lottery funded Community Connect project, which aims to work with organisations in York to become more inclusive and welcoming for people living with sight loss.



Sue Jordan, Visitor Experience Manager for the National Trust said, "We're honoured to receive this accreditation from MySight York. It's a real testament to the dedication of the volunteer tour guides to adapt the popular experience to suit visitors with sight loss."

Visitors can expect a personalised experience, exploring the legacy of Frank Green—who transformed the house into a striking stage for his vast collection of fine art, antiques and period furnishing.

Sue continued, "It's been a real team effort. Clear and thought provoking training from MySight York, complemented funding from the local National Trust Association to buy replica collection items for touching."

The experience is led by knowledgeable guides (trained in Sighted Guiding by MySight York) who offer tailored, descriptive commentary, creating a vivid and memorable journey throughout the house.

The Guided Sensory Tours are available by appointment only, on the first Tuesday of each month.

To book a place or to learn more, please contact Treasurer's House: 01904 624247,

treasurershouse@nationaltrust.org.uk

or book via the website: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/yorkshire/treasurers-house-york/events>

Sailing opportunity for visually impaired young adults

Are you visually impaired and between 18 and 25 years old? If so, we have a great opportunity for you to sail with us in August in the fantastic sailing region of the South Coast of England where the prestigious Cowes Sailing Week takes place.

You will be on a lovely modern 40 foot sailing yacht, and you will sleep in the well appointed cabins on the yacht, and the event includes food and non-alcoholic drinks on board.

You will have the chance to take part in activities of running and operating the yacht, and can do as much or as little as you wish. The boat will call into different local ports as part of the event, so you will be able to enjoy shoreside activities as well as sailing.

We have two separate events lined up in August, and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Trip 1, Start 4pm Monday 4 August at to 10am Saturday 10 August.

Trip 2, Start 4pm Thursday 28 August to 10am Sunday 31 August

The trip starts and finishes in Southampton town quay, near the Isle of Wight ferry terminal. You will be met by the crew here, where

support is given to help you find the boat and get on board.

Thanks to a grant from The Powell Family Foundation the cost is just £25 per person. The cost includes food and drink on board but excludes food and drink bought on shore and your travel cost to and from the port in Southampton.

You will supported by fully qualified and experienced sighted sailors. Their role is to ensure your safety and to make sure you get the most out of this opportunity.

We eat and sleep onboard the boat and the ethos is for everyone to be involved in selecting the menu, cooking, washing up, keeping the boat shipshape and of course sailing the boat.

You do not need any experience of sailing to take part, although you do need to be reasonably fit and able as you will be involved in all aspects of sailing and living on the boat.

If you'd like to join us, or talk to us about this great opportunity please call Dee Jones, our Membership Secretary and Vice Chair on 07920 144614 or pop an email to: membership@visa-gb.org.uk.

We really hope to see you in August on the water!

MySight York VI Tennis

MySight York runs VI Tennis sessions every Monday (except bank holidays) in collaboration with York Disability Tennis Network (YDTN), supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.

The sessions take place 11:30am – 12:30pm at York Sports Centre, University of York, James Way, Heslington, York, YO10 5NA
www.accessable.co.uk/university-of-york/access-guides/of-york-sports-centre

Two types of players are welcome to attend during the same time slot. VI Development Tennis – for beginners and North Yorkshire VI League Tennis Training– for more practiced players that also enjoy travelling to various parts of Yorkshire to play.

Blind/VI Tennis is played on a smaller court with foam balls containing a rattle and smaller rackets. Line markings are placed down to enable players to feel their position on court.

The VI Development Tennis sessions, run in collaboration with YDTN and MySight York, have been taking place since January 2023. There has been a big increase in members since the sessions began and this is all thanks to support from Rob Hodge as the qualified lawn tennis YDTN VI Tennis Coach and MySight York volunteers who help with sighted

guiding, setting up accessible courts and providing tennis-related support. This has also enabled the new North Yorkshire League to flourish. Many thanks to MySight York's Lydia Wrightson for overseeing the organisation of the sessions.

If you would like to play or volunteer at these sessions please contact MySight York on 01904 731124. (Please note that you do not need to be a player or knowledgeable of tennis, having an interest is beneficial.)

To get involved with league tennis please contact North Yorkshire VI League Tennis Training at enquiries@yorkshiretennis.org.uk

York recently hosted its first Yorkshire VI League Tennis Tournament. Thank you to everyone that took part, especially MySight York Volunteers.



Players at the Yorkshire VI Tennis League Tournament.

Celebrating 35 Years of Befriending

This year, we are proud to celebrate 35 years of Befriending at MySight York, a service built with and for you, our members.

It has brought people together, offering company, conversation, and connection to reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation. Whether through home-visits, phone calls, or trips out and about, the service has helped many to stay active, independent, and connected to their local community.

Over the years, how the service is delivered has evolved too, to meet your needs. From home-visits in the early days, to telephone befriending during the pandemic, we've always listened and adapted to make sure you have the support that works best for you. This flexibility will continue, as we look to the future and find new ways to keep the service relevant, accessible, and valuable for everyone.

Our volunteers have supported hundreds, if not thousands, of members, offering more than just a chat. Whether it's reading your post, helping with everyday tasks, supporting you to get out and about, or even building confidence to try something new - like using technology or taking part in exercise, the impact has been life-changing for many.

We've heard how these connections have brightened

people's weeks, reduced isolation, and helped build friendships that make life a little easier and a lot more enjoyable.

One Person told us, "My volunteer cuts the loneliness out of my life." Another shared, "Having someone to talk to about my week takes my mind off my problems. It's amazing to have that connection with someone I've never even met." Families have told us it brings peace of mind too, knowing their loved ones have regular social contact.

As we mark this milestone, this is your celebration. Your stories, experiences, and feedback have shaped this service so if you'd like to be part of the future of Befriending, whether as a client or volunteer, get in touch on 01904 636269 or email hello@mysightyork.org



Bex Wood tells us about the new Optaro video magnifier

Apple and Eschenbach's new magnification tool, the Optaro Camera, is the first video magnifier that is specifically designed for Apple smartphones. This small and handy device fits comfortably onto the back of your iPhone to create a powerful, accessible and inclusive tool that you can use anywhere.

The camera works by using the free Optaro app which allows the camera and your iPhone to communicate and become a full feature video magnifier.

The specifications are:

- Full HD camera
- 3.3x - 15x magnification
- Integrated stand
- Backlight
- Simple & easy to use

Having had the opportunity to test this device, the benefits are instantly clear. It is designed to fit securely on the rear of an iPhone 12 or above with protective cases and universal magnetic stand. This turns your Apple iPhone into a powerful video magnifier that you can take anywhere and use inclusively in any environment.

The easy-to-use controls on your iPhone screen mean you can accessibly manipulate what you are magnifying. The powerful magnification starts at 3.3x and can magnify as much as 15x. The

settings include 14 different false colour modes, different orientation, the ability to add a guide line. One of the more interesting features is called "talk to me" which gives you the ability to read out a selection of words from the magnification screen.

One of the other more interesting features of the Optaro camera is its ability to become wireless. This means that you could leave your Optaro camera facing what you are reading, remove your phone from the stand then travel to another spot in the same room or even another room, and still be able to see, on your phone screen, what the camera is looking at. Imagine you are cooking in the kitchen and don't want to keep moving back and forth. Simply place the Optaro device over the section of the recipe you want then have your phone with you at your different workstations to see what you need.

If you would like to explore this exciting new device further then please contact Bex on 01904 636269 to arrange a 1-1 appointment or join us for an Open Day with Associated Optical on **Wednesday 2nd July at 10 – 2.30pm** at the MySight York offices for the chance to fully explore this new piece of kit and other digital magnifiers from Eschenbach.

Fundraising News

By Louise Calpin

Thank you to all who supported MySight York's Spring Craft Fair

On Thursday 8th May, we hosted our first Spring Craft Fair at St. Sampson's Centre.

We are incredibly grateful to all who attended and supported the event, 50+ people visited the craft fair over the 2 hours. Thank you also to our brilliant fundraising volunteers for their support on the day.

A huge thank you to our wonderful stall holders, their creativity and beautifully crafted items were amazing. Our stall holders were:

- Blueberry Pop up Shop
- Creating April
- Bespoke Cards and Gifts by Juls
- Nick Boreham (Author)
- ShellyDayDream Designs
- Tuvey's Trinkets
- The Floral Muse



On our tombola and knitting stall, we raised £59.50 in total which is great. Thank you again for being a part of it!

Can you help find homes for our Pink Elephant collection tins?

Perhaps you know of a local shop or business who could give a home to one of MySight York's Pink Elephant collection tins? By hosting a Pink Elephant collection tin, local businesses can play a crucial role in helping us continue to deliver essential services.

Our Pink Elephants are very low maintenance. We have a dedicated team of fantastic volunteers who



empty them regularly, ensuring the process is as seamless as possible.

Hosting a Pink Elephant is a simple, yet impactful way to support us. If you can help, call us on 01904 636269 or email hello@mysightyork.org

Chris Cooper's Coast-to-Coast

We are delighted to announce that Chris Cooper, a member of MySight York, is planning to walk Coast-to-Coast to raise funds for us.

Chris lost his left eye last year and he says; "MySight York supported me on this difficult journey and I've challenged myself to walk Coast to Coast this summer, 9th to 22nd August, to support this small charity. They do amazing work in York for people with all kinds of sight impairment and loss."

Chris had an original target of £1,500 which he has already exceeded, but he is determined to raise as much money as possible.

He has been aided in his fundraising efforts by Roundhouse Engineering Co. Ltd who have donated a model railway engine to auction, Harrogate Model Railway Club and Yorkshire Garden Railway Show who have offered Chris the opportunity to fundraise at their events.

If you would like to support Chris you can donate online at https://www.justgiving.com/page/coops-c2c?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015 or by cash or card at our office.

Good luck for the walk Chris and many thanks for choosing to support MySight York.

If you, or someone you know, would like to raise funds in aid of MySight York, please contact us on 01904 636269 or email hello@mysightyork.org and we will be happy to support you.

Upcoming Stalls

Information and Knitting Stall at York Hospital.

Join us at The Hub (outside Ellerby's restaurant) on Friday 30th May, 9am—2pm.

Celebrate diversity with our **Teddy Tombola at York Pride 2025 (York Knavesmire)**. Try your luck on our teddy tombola on Saturday 7th June, 11am – 6:30pm



Enjoy the excitement of York Dragon Boat Race on Sunday 13th July, 10am—4pm. MySight York will have a **Teddy Tombola stall at the North Bank Gala**.

This is a great family day out and there will be plenty of stalls from various local charities so come along and support us.

Upcoming Events at MySight York

Consultation Meetings

As mentioned in the enclosed letter, the Board of Trustees have planned a series of Consultation Days to share their ideas and proposals for the future governance of the charity.

MySight York is governed by its articles of association registered with the Charity Commission. The articles describe who we can support, where we operate and how we must make decisions. It also includes matters such as the number of Trustees that we must have.

The Trustees are proposing changes to this to enable the charity to become a more agile organisation which can make decisions quickly and efficiently and these meetings will provide an opportunity to fully explain the proposals.

The consultation meetings will take place over the coming weeks. The dates are:

- **Wednesday 4th June at 10.30am**
- **Tuesday 17th June at 1pm**
- **Friday 20th June at 10.30am**
- **Thursday 3rd July at 1pm**

This is an opportunity to meet the Trustees, ask any questions you may have and provide feedback so please do come along.

Associated Optical Open Day

John from Associated Optical will be running an open day for members to come and see the new Optaro magnifier for Apple iPhone (information on this in the Tech Tips section on page 17).

This is an ideal opportunity to see this new magnifier in action, demonstrated by an expert. John will also be demonstrating other digital magnifiers from Eschenbach.

The open day will be on **Wednesday 2nd July at 10 – 2.30pm** in the Activities room at our Walmgate office. If you are interested but unable to attend then please call 01904 636269 to make an appointment with Bex in the E&I Centre.

