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**My Sight Notts Staff Update**

Over the last year we have been looking at ways that we could ensure that the people we support are at the heart of what we do. Some time ago we adopted the Sight Loss MOT – an assessment and outcome measuring tool that enables us to really understand the needs of people with sight loss and puts them at the centre of their support. In order to fully implement this, it became apparent that we would need to restructure and so, in March 2023, we started a new way of working.

This restructure, coupled with financial constraints, meant that we were unfortunately forced to make a couple of roles redundant. Our Arts Development Officer, Volunteer Coordinator and Sight Loss Advisor roles became at risk of redundancy in February 2023.

Our Arts Development Officer, Jeanne Roberts, left us in late February. Jeanne’s legacy will live on in our choir which we are committed to keep going as well as our partnership with Nottingham Trent University Arts School. We wish Jeanne all the very best and hope she enjoys her garden this summer!

Julie Scarle, our Marketing and Communications Manager, offered to take voluntary redundancy and left us at the end of March. Julie had been an integral part of the management team for many years and we wish her all the very best for the future. Her selfless decision ensured that we had roles available for all remaining staff should they want to take up the new positions.

Matt Harrison, our Services Supervisor, also left us to take up a position with the Thomas Pocklington Trust setting up Sight Loss Councils in the East Midlands. We wish him all the best and I’m sure we’ll be seeing quite a lot of him whilst setting up the new councils.

Staff applied for and were successful with the remaining roles and we also welcomed Abbie McPhilbin in March 2023 as our new Employment Advisor. Abbie will be heading up our Works for Me employment service – more details are included in this pack. Our gym and swim sessions, Walkie Talkie Wednesdays and Rambling groups remain unaffected by the changes above and continue as before.

The staff team is now as follows:

Michael Conroy CEO

Emma Lucas Services Manager

Lydia Fenton Fundraising Manager

Michelle Spouge Finance Manager

Donna Goldberg Senior Sight Loss Advisor

Anita Pashley Referrals Coordinator

Sarah Briggs Sight Loss Advisor

Alan Hart Sight Loss Advisor

Abbie McPhilbin Employment Advisor

Chris White ECLO

Michel Banton Shared Vision Coordinator

Kirsty Allen Activities and Administration Coordinator

Lynne Connelly Hockley Shop Manager

Sue Rid out Mapperley Shop Manager

Ken Birch Driver/Handyperson

Nichola Cunningham Cleaner

**Tandem Rides**

We are pleased to announce that we will be working in partnership with Ridewise again this year to run five tandem bike rides across the city and county.

The provisional dates for these rides are as follows:

21st June 2023

6.30pm to 8.30pm – a taster session for beginners at the embankment in Nottingham

15th July 2023

2.30pm to 4.30pm – a taster session for beginners at Kings Mill reservoir in Sutton in Ashfield

5th August 2023

2.00pm to 5.00pm – an intermediate ride to from Colwick to Gunthorpe

2nd September 2023

2.00pm to 5.00pm – an intermediate ride at Sherwood Pines, nr Edwinstowe

17th September 2023

11.00am to 3pm – a celebratory ride from Radcliffe on Trent to the Vale of Belvoir

These dates are currently provisional but if you would like to register your interest as either a Pilot or Stroker, please contact us on 0115 970 6806. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

**Mansfield IT**

We are bringing our IT group to Mansfield!

From September, in partnership with Inspire Culture who run Mansfield Library, we are delivering a drop-in IT session once a month on a Wednesday. The sessions will be from 10.30am to 2.30pm and you can bring along all your IT problems to our Sight Loss Advisor, Alan, who will be happy to help.

We will be starting this on Wednesday 13th September. Please see our social media, website and Talking News for more details a bit nearer the time.