

Annual Report 2016-17



Southampton Sight (Southampton Society for the Blind) is a local charity providing a range of practical help and advice to people affected by sight loss, with the aim of promoting independence, wellbeing and choice.

887 people with sight loss supported by Southampton Sight

38 young people and children attended activities at the centre

52 volunteers gave us 4,325 hours of time equivalent to £31,360

224 social activity sessions



104 people attended assistive technology sessions

15 people accessed the audio library

257 information, advice and equipment demonstrations

12 activity bulletins and 4 newsletters per annum sent to over 700 members

324 People attended sight loss awareness sessions

“Southampton Sight went the extra mile and did what no one else offered to do. Without their support, I would have struggled and I don't think I would have got to University.” Student 19 years

“Love coming here and interacting with other people.”

Service User July 2017

Southampton Sight Finances

Income £268,976

Investments

£1,799



Legacies

£11,543



Donations & Gifts

£83,879



Grants

£123,425



Charitable Activities

£30,832



Trading

£17,498



Expenses £204,429

Fundraising

£16,922



Charitable Activities

£187,922



Income totalled £268,976 in 2016/17, which was £89,192 higher than the previous year resulting in a surplus of £64,547 (2016 - deficit of £10,612). Reserves totalled £324,030 at the year-end:

General Reserves £187,891

Restricted Funds £ 53,470

Designated Funds £ 82,669 (£52,669 Building Fund and £30,000 Community and Fundraising Developments)

Full accounts published at www.charity-commission.gov.uk

“It’s a sheer delight at Southampton Sight. They do everything to help remove the fright when you have lost or are losing your sight.”

Service User July 2017

“The Children’s Group is brilliant - loads of activities and new things for the children to try which has built my confidence as well as my daughters. Thank you.” Parent July 2017

Southampton Sight Objectives

- People with sight loss will have greater independence
- People with sight loss will experience reduced isolation
- People with sight loss will have greater access to information, advice, support and specialist equipment in relation to their sight loss
- Residents of Southampton and associated professionals will have increased awareness of sight loss

Telephone Enquiries

Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm

Friday 9am – 12pm

Resource Centre

Drop in Wednesday 10am – 12pm

Appointments please call the office

Social Activities

| Day | Time | Activity |
|------------|------------------|---|
| Monday | 11am – 11.45am | Tai Chi |
| | 2pm – 4pm | Weekly Social Group |
| | 2pm – 4pm | Bridge |
| Wednesday | 10am – 12pm | Resource Centre drop in |
| | 10am – 12pm | People of Working Age Social Group (1 st Wednesday of the month) |
| | 2pm – 4pm | Weekly Social Group with entertainment |
| Friday | 10am – 12.30pm | Creative Writing (4th Friday of the month) |
| | 1pm – 3pm | Book Group (4th Friday of the month) |
| | 11.30am – 2.30pm | Lunch Club (1st and third Friday of the month) |
| Saturday | 10am – 12pm | Children and Young People (second Saturday of the month) |

“I found it useful to see a blind person using IT equipment with confidence which made me feel there is hope for me even though I am older.” Service User July 2017

“I contacted them when I was at a point of desperation and they were very helpful.” Service User July 2017

THANK YOU – We would like to acknowledge the invaluable support we have received over the past year:

Grants & Trusts

Nationwide Building Society
Richard Kirkman Trust
Southampton Charitable Trust
Brunswick Charitable Trust
Hospital Saturday Fund
Weinstock Fund
Charlotte Bonham-Carter Trust
Denplan
Quinton Helping Others Fund
Barker Mill Foundation
Tesco
Rank Foundation
Greggs Foundation
Co-Op Community Fund
Colden Common Choir
Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities

Chosen Charity

Waitrose Chandlers Ford
Disney Store

Legacies

Alan Broomfield
Vera Margaret Badley

In Memory

Frances Kirkman
Margaret Salter
Jas Thompson
Ronald Gray
Marion Fields
Rita Richards
Robert Painter
Agnes Croxson

Message from the Chief Executive

2016/17 has been a busy year at the Charity as we have seen our activity increase by **70%**. This has been largely due to our outreach service which includes befriending, assistive technology demonstrations and sight loss awareness training for Care homes, businesses and community groups. We now face some interesting challenges with our Big Lottery Funding ending in January 2018 which is approximately £80,000 per annum. Our plans are to focus on developing a Low Vision Rehabilitation Hub at the centre which will provide a one stop shop where people newly diagnosed with sight loss will attend their low vision assessments and will also have access to information and advice, a fully equipped resource and equipment facility and access to social and peer support groups. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members, volunteers and staff for their ongoing support and look forward to a successful 2017/18.

Jackie Powers (CEO)

“The charity staff have been vital in helping me adapt to my disability and giving me abilities.” Service User July 2017