



Newsletter

November 2023

Welcome to the winter edition of our newsletter.

Following a late start to summer, things did pick up and we managed to get some sunshine. This was great news for our Children and Young People's Group who had a programme of summer holiday activities arranged. They had trips to Alton Towers, a paddle boarding session, trampolining, farm and ice cream parlour visit, bowling and the cinema! All of the activities provide a real boost for the young people, and for their families, reminding them of what they can do and achieve as they learn to live with a visual impairment. Following a visit to trampolining we got this fantastic feedback from one mum:

"We haven't been able to come here before, thank you. The boys are normally so quiet and shy. I can't believe how chatty and cheeky they are with you. I love seeing it."

As the winter months draw in we continue to offer all of our usual services, including rehabilitation and low vision services, information events, our ECLOs at Derby and Chesterfield hospitals, social activities, living well services, and our new befriending service. If you are struggling with anything and think we can help, please do get in touch.

In this edition we tell you more about us as a local charity, give you the chance to win some great prizes in our Winter raffle, and provide a Christmas card ordering service, that proved popular last year! There is also some information from our newsletter sponsor Associated Optical, who are also kindly providing the £250 first prize for the raffle!

With limited space, we can only tell you so much in our newsletter.

There's a lot more information on our website

www.sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk and Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SightSupDerbys>

Our Charity – Frequently Asked Questions

People often ask 'Are you the same as DAB (Derbyshire Association of the Blind)?' And the short answer is yes! We changed our name to Sight Support Derbyshire in 2012. We thought it might be useful to do some FAQs here, particularly for those people new to us and our services.

Are you a Registered Charity?

Yes, we are registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales. We have a Board of Trustees who oversee all of our work. You can check us out on the website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

We are also signed up to the Fundraising Regulator and follow their code of practice for all of our fundraising activities.

<https://www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk>

Are you part of RNIB or Guide Dogs?

No, we are an independent local Derbyshire charity, with our own constitution, responsibilities and rules. Every penny of the money we raise is spent in Derbyshire.

Do you have to raise all of your own money?

Just over half of our annual income is from contracts we hold with the County Council and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board. The other half is from grants that we have applied for, and other fundraising activities such as legacies, regular donations, raffles, and events that our members and supporters hold on our behalf.

Do you have paid staff?

Yes, we currently have 20 staff, most are part-time. We are supported by around 50 volunteers who we could not do without!

Contact us if you have any more queries or questions.

Fundraising Update

Winter Raffle

It's Winter Raffle time again with some wonderful prizes including £250 donated by Associated Optical, an Amazon Echo Show 8 and other great prizes including DCFC tickets and a voucher for the Peak Edge Hotel – there's something for everyone! Please return all ticket stubs and payment to our Derby Office by Monday 22nd January 2024 ready for the draw on Wednesday 24th January. Tickets can also be bought online here: www.sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk/winter-raffle-2023-24

Christmas Cards

After the success of last year, we are delighted to be able to send out Christmas card 'bundles' to you in the post once again (as well as selling them in person from our Derby and Chesterfield offices at a reduced price of just £2.25 a pack). You can view the cards on our website here: www.sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk/christmas-cards-2023 then complete your order form overleaf and return to us with payment by **4th December** at the latest.

We also have e-cards again this year, designed by members of our Children and Young People's Group. These can be sent to up to 100 friends and family via email or WhatsApp for a donation amount of your choice. You can order your e-cards here:
www.dontsendmeacard.com/ecards/charities/sight-support-derbyshire

Sight Support Derbyshire is here for you

Helpdesk number: 01332 292262

Email: enquiries@sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk

Website: www.sightsupportderbyshire.org.uk

Facebook and X (Twitter): Search @SightSupDerbys

Address: 2a Wentworth House, Vernon Gate, Derby, DE1 1UR

Christmas Card Order Form



Please select your card bundle theme and quantity below and return this form, together with payment, to our Derby Office.

Or phone 01332 292262 to order by credit/debit card.

2 packs (10 cards per pack) = £7.75 (including p&p)

3 packs (10 cards per pack) = £11 (including p&p)

Bundles	Number of bundles
Feathered & furry friends – 2 packs	
Feathered & furry friends – 3 packs	
Snowmen & Santa – 2 packs	
Snowmen & Santa – 3 packs	
Christmas Trees – 2 pack	
Christmas Trees – 3 pack	
Assorted – 2 pack	
Assorted – 3 pack	

Name

Address

.....

Phone number (in case of queries)

I enclose a cheque made payable to Sight Support Derbyshire for £.....

Packs will be sent by second class post. Last date for orders to be received to our Derby Office: **Monday 4th December 2023.**