

***Information for  
visually impaired people***

***Ref.93***

***Seeing Sense Guide  
1 – Communication***



- **Library Services**
- **Talking Books (tapes and CD)**
- **Talking Newspapers and Magazines**
- **Large Print Newspaper and Magazines**
- **Specialist Publications**
- **Transcription Services**
- **Radios, cassette players and CD players**
- **New to Computers?**

***[www.devon.gov.uk/socialcare](http://www.devon.gov.uk/socialcare)***

***May 2011***

# **RNIB Publications**

**PO Box 173**

**Peterborough PE2 6WS**

**Tel. 0303 123 9999**

**Email: [cservices@rnib.org.uk](mailto:cservices@rnib.org.uk)**

**Publications may be available in large print, Braille or on cassette. Other mail order items also available. A range of publications is available about living with or caring for someone with sight loss. Ask for details.**

# **Partially Sighted Society**

**(PSS), 7/9 Bennetthorpe,**

**Doncaster DN2 6AA**

**Tel. 0844 4774 966**

**Email: [info@partsight.org.uk](mailto:info@partsight.org.uk)**

- **‘Oculus’ – a quarterly magazine in large print. Contact the PSS for further details.**
- **Low vision aids – lighting, large print publications, magnifiers and writing frames.**
- **Free brochure and catalogue on request.**

# **Devon Library and Information Services**

**Tel. 01392 384315**

**Email: [devlibs@devon.gov.uk](mailto:devlibs@devon.gov.uk)**

**[www.devon.gov.uk/library](http://www.devon.gov.uk/library)**

**(follow the link under services)**

**Services offered to people with visual impairments include:**

- **Large print books**
- **Audio cassettes and compact discs loaned free to people who are unable to read large print comfortably**
- **Devon Library Services will pay your membership subscription to the RNIB Talking Book Service for people with a visual impairment, if authorised by Rehabilitation Officer – Visual Impairment (ROVI).**

**Reading aids:**

- **All libraries have access to magnified text on their computers**
- **Most large libraries have desk magnifiers**
- **All libraries have hearing loops systems.**

# **At Home Library Service**

**Tel. 01392 384336**

**This is a partnership between the WRVS and Devon Library Services to provide large print and talking books, in most areas of Devon, for people who are housebound.**

## **RNIB National Library Service**

**Far Cromwell Road,**

**Bredbury,**

**Stockport,**

**Cheshire SK6 2SG**

**Tel. 0161 355 2000**

**[www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk)**

**The National Library Services Braille and Moon lending library, giant print books (24pt) and information service via the website. Ring the above telephone number to become a member and order books via free postage.**

# Calibre Audio Library

Aylesbury,

Bucks

HP22 5XQ

Tel. 01296 432339

Email: [enquiries@calibre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@calibre.org.uk)

[www.calibre.org.uk](http://www.calibre.org.uk)

- Free service. Donations welcome.
- Quarterly bulletin.
- There is a small charge for the printed catalogues, which are grouped by genre.
- The catalogue can also be accessed on line.
- Books are recorded on to audio cassettes, compact discs and MP3 discs.
- Over 8,000 books recorded cover to cover, including 1,000 titles for children.
- A dyslexia service is also available.
- Young Calibre includes a website and regular bulletin.

# **RNIB Talking Book Service**

**PO Box 173,  
Peterborough,  
PE2 6WS  
Tel. 0303 123 9999**

- **Apply through your Devon Adult & Community Services, Rehabilitation Officer – Visual Impairment (ROVI).**
- **Devon Library Services may pay your membership fee if you are eligible.**
- **Over 10,400 books recorded, unabridged, onto CDs.**
- **A special machine for use with the CD books is loaned to you if you become a member.**
- **There are some children's titles.**
- **Catalogues are available in large print, on compact disc or in Braille.**
- **The catalogue can also be accessed on line.**
- **Selected CD books are sent between your home and the RNIB using 'Articles for the Blind' freepost labels.**

# **RNIB Talking Books - Repairs and Servicing**

**Tel. 0303 123 9999**

**There are three volunteer co-ordinators in Devon, who arrange for the repair of these special machines.**

**Volunteer co-ordinators can only answer queries about RNIB talking book machines**

## **Talking Newspapers**

**For details, contact the:**

**Devon In Sight,**

**Station House, Holman Way,**

**Topsham, Exeter EX3 0EN**

**Tel. 01392 876666**

**Email: [contact@devonblind.org.uk](mailto:contact@devonblind.org.uk)**

- **Local talking newspapers are usually weekly or fortnightly with local news, information and items of interest. You may be able to borrow a tape recorder on free, permanent loan.**
- **In addition to newspapers in Devon, there are nearly 500 other talking newspapers in the country. For details of these contact the Talking Newspaper Association of the UK. Tel. 01435 866102.**

# **National Talking Newspapers and Magazines Association**

**National Recording Centre  
Heathfield  
East Sussex  
TN21 8DB**

**Tel. 01435 866102**

**Email: [info@tnauk.org.uk](mailto:info@tnauk.org.uk)**

**[www.tnauk.org.uk](http://www.tnauk.org.uk)**

- **Over 200 national newspapers and magazines (including the Radio and TV Times) recorded on to audio cassette and audio CD and Daisy CD.**
- **Computer text by e-mail, and CD-ROM and MP3 download.**
- **Annual subscription.**
- **Free postage in the UK.**
- **Available to anyone who struggles to read large print for any reason.**

# **Big Print Newspaper**

**PO Box 173**

**Peterborough PE2 6WS**

**Tel. 0303 123 9999**

**Email: [bigprint@rnib.org.uk](mailto:bigprint@rnib.org.uk)**

**[www.rnib.org.uk/bigprint](http://www.rnib.org.uk/bigprint)**

**National weekly newspaper set in bold type more than twice the size of other newspapers. National and international news, radio and TV listings, brainteasers, sports, recipes, large print book reviews.**

**Contact 'The Big Print' for a free sample copy and details of subscription.**

# **Torch Trust for the Blind**

**Torch House,**

**Torch Way,**

**Northampton Road,**

**Market Harborough,**

**Leicestershire LE16 9HL**

**Tel. 01858 438260**

**Email: [info@torchtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@torchtrust.org.uk)**

**Christian books and magazines on CD, Daisy CD, audio-cassette, in large print and Braille. The Trust also run a holiday and retreat centre.**

# **RNIB Transcription Centre**

**2 Whiteoaks Court**

**David's Lane**

**Ivybridge**

**Devon**

**PL21 0DW**

**Tel. 01752 690092**

**Fax. 01752 698329**

**Email: [ivytcsw@rnib.org.uk](mailto:ivytcsw@rnib.org.uk)**

**This centre will put any printed material into other formats (large print, Braille and digital compact discs - from a single page to a book. It is a free service to individuals who have a visual impairment.**

- Tactile maps and diagrams for individual students.**
- Braille messages supplied for greeting cards.**
- Enlarged music manuscripts – ‘modified music’.**

# **British Wireless for the Blind Fund (BWBF)**

**10 Albion Place,**

**Maidstone,**

**Kent,**

**ME14 5DZ**

**Tel. 01622 754757**

**Fax. 01622 751725**

**Email: [info@blind.org.uk](mailto:info@blind.org.uk)**

**[www.blind.org.uk](http://www.blind.org.uk)**

**An independent, registered charity that is able to supply specially adapted radios, radio/cassette players and radio/cassette/CD players.**

**The machines may be bought from the BWBF or may be provided, on free permanent loan, to eligible people who are registered blind or partially sighted.**

**Contact the BWBF for general enquiries, or Care Direct 0845 1551 007 to be referred to the Sensory Team.**

# **In Touch**

**Tel. 0800 044044**

**[www.bbc.co.uk/intouch](http://www.bbc.co.uk/intouch)**

**A radio programme on Radio 4 every Tuesday evening. A programme of special interest to people with a visual impairment. After the programme there is an off-air phone-in.**

# **Devon Sensory Team: New to Computers?**

**[www.devon.uk/new2computers](http://www.devon.uk/new2computers)**

**This site contains useful information for people who are new to computers and contains links to other sites.**

# **AbilityNet**

**Freephone tel. 0845 0535635**

**Email: [enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@abilitynet.org.uk)**

**[www.abilitynet.org.uk](http://www.abilitynet.org.uk)**

**Provides advice, fact sheets, assessments and training with assistive ICT technology for people with disabilities.**

# **RNIB Technology**

**RNIB Hi Tech sales and support**  
**Tel. 0845 900 0015**

**This service can identify your requirements and help with any technical queries you may have.**

# **RNIB Volunteer Unit**

**Tel. 0845 604 2341**

**For various volunteer support issues, including computer and home technology such as mobile phones, freeview boxes, audio descriptions etc.**

# **Abilitywise Torbay Innovation Centre**

**Lymington Road,  
Torquay TQ1 4BD  
Tel. 0845 053 5635  
(01626) 833107**

**[www.abilitywise.co.uk](http://www.abilitywise.co.uk)**

**Email: [info@abilitywise.co.uk](mailto:info@abilitywise.co.uk)**

**Abilitywise is a company which provides specialist advice and a choice of services to those who may benefit from assistive or adaptive technology.**

- They offer consultancy, assessment, equipment and training to businesses, education and private individuals.**
- They also work with job centres through the access2ability partnership.**
- They supply a wide choice of specialist equipment including text readers, CCTV magnifiers, screen readers and adaptive software.**
- Demonstration, sometimes free of charge, installation and ongoing support is available.**

# **Action for Blind People**

**14/16 Verney Road**

**London SE16 3DZ**

**Tel. 0800 915 4666**

**Email: [central@afbp.org](mailto:central@afbp.org)**

**[www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk](http://www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk)**

**Local contact:**

**Suite 1 Chiltern House,**

**Sigford Road,**

**Marsh Barton,**

**Exeter**

**EX2 8NL**

**Tel: 01392 458060**

**Fax 01392 824240**

**Action for Blind is a national charity that supports over 20,000 visually impaired people around the country. They provide a range of support, information and advice services to individuals and organizations this includes accessible information and specific ICT provision.**

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**Further copies from the  
Sensory Team via Care Direct  
at the My Devon  
Customer Service Centre:**



**Tel: 0845 1551 007  
SMS text: 0777 3333 231  
Text Phone: 0845 155 1020  
Fax: 0845 155 1003  
Email: [sensory@devon.gov.uk](mailto:sensory@devon.gov.uk)**

**This information is available in other formats such  
as audio, and in languages other than English.**

**Comments or updates to this pack: Please contact  
the Sensory Team via Care Direct, as above.**

***[www.devon.gov.uk/socialcare](http://www.devon.gov.uk/socialcare)***

***May 2011***