

Brighter futures

WINTER 2010 INSIDE ISSUE SIX



National
Blind
Childrens
Society



Tandem triumph page 3

Party people page 16

Flying the flag

Robin Williams is one of life's winners. His blindness has not stopped him from achieving spectacular sporting success from an early age.

Three years ago he started playing for a domestic blind football team – leading to an invitation to join the England Blind Football World Cup squad and winning fourth place in the 2010 contest.

Twenty-two-year-old Robin, from Somerset, who is studying for a doctorate in statistics at Exeter University, has no doubt about the value of sport for young people with visual impairment.

He said: 'It was a tremendous thrill and honour to represent England in the World Cup. For as long as I can remember I have enjoyed football but since playing at a high level I have definitely noticed an improvement in my spatial awareness and hence my mobility skills in busy environments.'

'Sport can make an enormous difference to the lives of children who are blind. The spatial awareness and coordination skills that are developed lead to improved self-confidence and all the benefits that brings.'

'Football is particularly valuable. As people who are blind we are used to relying on our hands to perform many tasks, so being encouraged to move out of this comfort zone to an environment where only the feet can be used must develop skills that do not come naturally.'

'Simply running with, or after, a ball is a skill that many children who are blind never experience. 'I cannot emphasise enough my view that participation in physical activities can reap untold benefits for children who are blind and partially sighted.'

Robin is now aiming for next year's European Championships, followed by the London Paralympics in 2012.



Robin Williams from Somerset, who has not let his severe visual impairment stop him from playing in the Blind Football World Cup team

www.nbcs.org.uk



CONTENTS

NEWS: High achievers	3
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES: Widening horizons	4
DIARY DATES: Forthcoming events	5
THANKS: You have your say	6
FUNDRAISING : Challenging times	7
ACCESS TECHNOLOGY: The way forward	10
FAMILY SUPPORT & INFORMATION: How we help	11
CUSTOMEYES BOOKS: Growing demand	12
EDUCATIONAL ADVOCACY: Let's communicate	14
HOW YOU CAN HELP	15
PINBOARD: Picture round-up	16

KEY SERVICES

Family support & information

Immediate and ongoing 'one-stop' emotional and practical support

Educational advocacy

Expert advice and representation to ensure the child receives the most suitable education in the correct environment

Access technology

Personalised ICT, sensory and other specialist equipment to help children access up-to-date technology and enable them to participate in the modern world and achieve their potential

Recreational activities

A nationwide programme of day and weekend family events, social, holiday and adventure activities

CustomEyes books

Large-print fact and popular fiction titles, annuals and revision guides tailor-made to the children's individual needs

Our mission is to enable children who are blind and partially sighted to achieve their educational and recreational goals

National Blind Children's Society: www.nbcs.org.uk

Head office: Bradbury House, Market Street, Highbridge TA9 3BW
01278 764 764 enquiries@nbcs.org.uk

Birmingham office: Shawton House, 792 Hagley Road West, Quinton, Birmingham B68 0PJ

London office: 34 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH

Freephone Family Support and Information: 0800 781 1444

Brighter futures, the National Blind Children's Society newsletter, is published twice a year. Copies are available to download from www.nbcs.org.uk

Editorial: Joanna Roughton
T 01278 764 764 M 07974 238145 joanna.roughton@nbcs.org.uk

Chief executive: Carolyn Fullard
T 01278 764 764 carolyn.fullard@nbcs.org.uk

Print: SevernPrint Ltd

Registered Charity No. 1051607

Tandem trip turns up trumps

Londoner Julian Jackson has raised an astonishing £20,000 for the National Blind Children's Society so far from his tandem bike ride from John O'Groats to Land's End this summer.

With the support of his tandem 'buddy' Nichola Bennett Julian completed his marathon expedition on July 21.

When Julian started to go blind five years ago it felt 'like a long journey into subterranean gloom'. But all that changed when he discovered tandeming which, he says, 'broke down all my self-imposed barriers, thrust me back into the real world of colliding soundscapes and smells – it's given me perspective, a new context and a real life balance'.

Julian said: 'By raising money for the NBCS, I want to help as many children who are blind

and visually impaired as possible to integrate and continue to thrive in the sighted world around them, and ultimately to experience their own fun, adventure and freedom of expression through their personal choices of physical activity – who knows, maybe they'll take up tandeming!'

NBCS Chief Executive Carolyn Fullard said: 'We are hugely grateful to Julian and congratulate him and Nichola on their achievement.

'Without supporters like them we would not be able to help the thousands of children and young people with visual impairment and their families who rely on us.

'We wish Julian all the best of luck with the plans for his next adventure.'

Julian is still collecting sponsorship through his website at www.1blind1blonde.com.



Londoner Julian Jackson on his fundraising bike ride with 'tandem buddy' Nichola Bennett and Daughter

Making waves



Sixteen-year-old Dylan Conti has never had any doubt about his career ambitions – to be a radio presenter.

So when he was offered work experience at his local station, Radio Suffolk he jumped at the chance to make his dream a reality.

Dylan, who is visually impaired, said: 'I can't say I had much idea of what to expect – all I knew was I was going to love it, and I did, every second.

'One of the first things I had to do was answer the phones – and you do sometimes get some weird people calling in!

'Then I had to research a show, which was really exciting. Some of my findings were used and, as a reward, I got to pick which village was covered the next day.'

Dylan's first taste of radio presenting was his role as anchor on the NBCS promotional DVD, which tells the story of our work through the children's own words.

To order a free copy of the DVD call 01278 764 764 or email enquiries@nbcs.org.uk.

Guide dog days



Children with a visual impairment and their immediate families are invited to attend some special sessions to find out what it would be like to own a guide dog.

The first Family Guide Dog Experience Day will take place on Saturday 19 February

2011 (during half term) at the Guide Dogs Training Centre in Leamington Spa. It will include introductions by the National Blind Children's Society and Guide Dogs, followed by a tour of the training centre with practical hands-on time with the dogs, ending with questions and answers.

Refreshments will be provided and we expect the day to be fun and informative.

There will be two sessions, from 10.30am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.30pm. We can take four families to each session.

We will also be holding similar days for NBCS families in Bolton and London during 2011.

Contact Sally Freeman on 01278 764775 or email sally.freeman@nbcs.org.uk.

On track with Thomas

For the third year running, due to popular demand, NBCS hosted a family day out at Drayton Manor Park and Zoo, Tamworth, Staffordshire.

Thirty children with a visual impairment and their families joined in the fun.

The park is packed with great rides for children of all ages – including some very scary action-packed rides for the older ones – but the most popular area again for our families proved to be Thomas Land, home of Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends.

NBCS had a private hospitality room and car park for the day so that the families could join us for lunch and there was a chance to talk to our specialist staff.



Join our fun beauty courses

We are inviting girls aged 13-18 with a visual impairment to join a beauty course with a difference.

You will be taught how to develop a simple skincare routine – including cleansing, toning and face mapping – and learn techniques in the application of make-up – including foundation, eye make-up, mascara, blusher and lips.

After the course you will receive a skincare plan to follow at home.

We are running four courses throughout 2011 with six places available in each. The first will be held on Tuesday 22 February (during half-term) in our Birmingham office at 792 Hagley Road West, Quinton B68 0PJ, from 12.45pm to 4pm.

Future courses will be in London, Somerset and Southport on dates to be announced. To request a booking form contact Sally Freeman on 01278 764 764 or email sally.freeman@nbcs.org.uk.

Show time



Panto perennial Christopher Biggins as Widow Twankey heads the cast of Aladdin, our winter audio-described theatre extravaganza on 23 January at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

Children with a visual impairment and their immediate families are invited to join us for a touch-tour and matinee performance on Sunday 23 January.

We'll meet at the theatre at 11.45am for the behind-the-scenes touch-tour, and there will be drinks for everyone and story-telling for the children. Bring your own picnic, but there will be some treats for the children, including ice creams.

The performance starts at 2pm, and we have excellent seats in the stalls with audio headsets provided. Children with a visual impairment plus one parent/guardian are free. Tickets cost £12 for other immediate family members. The show finishes at about 4.30pm. Priority will be given to families who missed the Christmas party at Cadbury World. Contact Sally Freeman on 01278 764775 or email sally.freeman@nbcs.org.uk.

National Blind Children's Society

Diary dates

Saturday 4 December
Children's Christmas party, Cadbury World, Birmingham. This event is fully booked.

Sunday 23 January 2011
Aladdin, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre
A touch-tour and audio-described matinee performance of the classic panto. See left for details.

Sundays 13 February, 10 April, 12 June, 11 September, 13 November 2011, 11.30am-12.30pm
SPACE, Preston
The 'Soft Play Area within a Controllable Environment', largest multi-sensory room in the UK. Booking essential. Contact Glenys Critchley on 01704 562750 or 07779 320661, or email glenys.critchley@nbcs.org.uk.

ICT Days, 2011
For details and venues see page 10.

Saturday 19 February 2011
Guide Dogs experience day. See page 4 for details. Other dates and venues to be announced.

Tuesday 22 February 2011
Cool Looks for Me Health and beauty workshop (see page 4). Other dates and venues to be announced. For details contact Sally Freeman on 01278 764775 or email sally.freeman@nbcs.org.uk.

Friday 13 March – Sunday 15 2011
Family weekend at Belmont Hotel, Llandudno
Three days of fun-filled activities, with two nights' accommodation, food, entertainments and adventure centre visit. Adults £85, children £42.50. Limited funding available. Contact Glenys Critchley on 01278 764764 or email glenys.critchley@nbcs.org.uk.

Sunday 3 April, 2011
Easter party, Chester Zoo
Seasonal party fun among the animals. Contact Sally Freeman on 01278 764775 or email sally.freeman@nbcs.org.uk. It will be a sensory awareness day with four special sensory activities.

Another great day

Thank you for the lovely photo you sent of the children and me – my son points and tells everyone how much fun he had at Drayton Manor.

He is now waiting for an operation on his eyes as his corneas have become more scarred over the last few months.

The children and I had a very pleasurable day and it was lovely to meet members of NBCS who were so friendly and helpful – thanks for a great end to the summer.

Good luck with all your great work and I will look forward to the newsletters and the fundraising events that our school does for NBCS.
Sally

Thank you for my holiday

Thank you very much NBCS for my first holiday in your mobile home by the seaside.

I had a wonderful time and so did my Mum Sarah, Dad Simon and my brothers Callum and Kyle.
lots of love from
Bradley



Party at the park

I just wanted to drop you a line to say thank you very much for organising such a lovely day out at Longleat – it was fantastic. Hannah (and us!) had lots of fun, especially in the Adventure Castle which Hannah absolutely loved climbing up and sliding down the various slides.

It was also lovely to spend lunch with the trustees from the London Taxi Drivers who were all very good fun and very generous when they gave Hannah their raffle prize. Susan, James and Hannah

Oh what a lovely visit

In September we took a group of families round the Houses of Parliament. Here are some of the comments we received afterwards:

'It was a brilliant event. We had a really great day out. The opportunity to have lunch in the MPs' dining room was truly fantastic.'

'What an excellent day it turned out to be. My son has even been reading me an article on Big Ben!'

'Thank you so much for inviting our family on the Westminster Palace Tour.'

'We all thoroughly enjoyed the day, so much so that we are planning more visits to historical buildings.'



Huw hits the high road



Huw Grove with his son Harrison

Bristol dad Huw Grove took up the challenge of a lifetime to help children who are blind and partially sighted, by trekking over Peru's Inca Trail to the long-hidden ancient city of Machu Picchu.

Huw is very proud of his seven-year-old son Harrison who is registered blind with congenital nystagmus. He said: 'Harrison copes extremely well – many people would not even recognise that he has a visual impairment, let alone to the extent that he is registered blind. There are many like Harrison who have needs which go unrecognised by the general public, but that doesn't make their need any less significant.'

'Harrison is an achieving student, and is very capable, but does so in a mainstream school only through the use of visually enhancing technology and support. Supporting NBCS is one way we can ensure that other children realise their potential to the extent we feel Harrison is able to realise his.'

Huw is collecting sponsorship through the Learning Grove at www.thelearninggrove.com, or call 0845 8338113.

Trekking to the top

Cate Everitt, the National Blind Children's Society Trust Fundraising Officer, is leading our challenge trek to Peru's hidden Inca city of Machu Picchu in the spring.

Cate and her fellow trekkers, including NBCS trustee Rita Kirkwood, is training hard for the gruelling expedition – but still managed to find time for a photo shoot with a twist.

Just in case she bumps into one on her journey, she made friends with Jane the llama down the road in Somerset. Cate said: 'I'm really unfit and know I will have to put in a lot of preparation, but I thought it would be incredible to experience the Inca Trail, especially the combination of different worlds – rain forests and ruined cities together – and I've never been to South America.'

'This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me. To raise money for children who are blind and visually impaired while physically challenging myself is something I will never forget.'

The NBCS Inca Trail expedition starts in May 2011. To find out how you can sponsor Cate, or join her, Rita and the NBCS team on the trek, call Karen on 01278 764 764 or email karen.burt@nbcs.org.uk.



Cate getting to know Jane the Llama

Clubbing together

Beverley Seymour, Lady Captain of the Donnington Valley Golf Club, sent us this report.

'As is tradition with our club, we select a charity to support during our year in office. Two years ago our goddaughter, Charlotte, was born with a severe visual impairment and at the time the prognosis for her seemed bleak. By contacting NBCS the family found outstanding support and in the early days the family support manager was an invaluable source of hope and practical guidance. Charlotte is growing into a confident, bright little girl who copes brilliantly with her nystagmus. Knowing that money donated was being used so well led me to choose NBCS to support in my Captaincy year.



We run a Charity Day in June for all members of the club, friends, family and local businesses who join in the fun atmosphere of the competition in order to support our charities. At the end of the event we were delighted to have raised £3500, and we will continue to raise money in other ways until the end of the year when we will send off a further substantial donation.'

From left, Barry Gowers, Captain of Donnington Valley Golf Club, Bev Seymour, Lady Captain, with Chris Bevan, Charlotte's father, presenting a cheque to NBCS.

A day to remember

A club set up in memory of a Northampton-based Irishman raised £5000 for NBCS from their annual family fun day in July.

Patrick James Hanrahan was known as 'Speedy' to his friends, and ever since his sad death from cancer in 2000 families have gathered to have fun and play Irish football for the Speedy Cup.

The fundraising day is dedicated to Patrick, and his life is celebrated then each year by his many friends and family, ending with a sociable presentation evening.



New boxed babies

A fluffy polar bear is making its appearance for Christmas. It joins the ranks of our hugely popular Baby



Adoptable workplace games –pick a place name for £1 and the winner who guesses where the baby animal comes from gets to take it home.

In the new year a cuddly cow will join the menagerie.

To order a Baby Adoptable for your workplace and raise money for NBCS call Rose Carberry on 01278 764 764 or email enquiries@nbc.org.uk.

Take up a new challenge

Every year our supporters take to the great outdoors to raise money for NBCS, choosing challenges that stretch them mentally as well as physically - climbing mountains, sky-diving or parachuting, trekking on the Great Wall of China or on the Inca Trail are just a few that we can arrange for you. Or you can choose your own challenge - we'll still help you with all the organisation.



For details and fundraising packs call Karen Burt on 01278 764 764 or email karen.burt@nbc.org.uk

New on the market

MagniLink Student is a portable video magnifier with a combined reading and distance camera, which makes it ideal for use in schools and universities.

MagniLink Student weighs only 1.2kg and is easily transported with the included carrying case. The unit is mounted in a couple of seconds and the connection to a computer is easily done through a USB 2.0 port.

By simply pressing a button you can store and view high-resolution images from the camera on your computer. You can take a snapshot of the whiteboard and view the information when you get back home. In the same way you can also store handwritten notes and drawings from paper. MagniLink Student will also record a video.

For more details contact Professional Vision Services, Wellbury House, 90 Walsworth Road, Hitchin, Herts, SG4 9SX. Email: sales@professional-vision-services.co.uk. Web: www.professional-vision-services.co.uk. Tel: 01462 420751.



Come and try out the latest in ICT

NBCS holds regular access technology days where children and families can try out the latest specialist equipment, with the help of expert advisers and demonstrators.

Family support, education and CustomEyes large-print books officers also attend and are on hand for parents to have confidential advice sessions if they wish.

The days are free. Dates and venues will be confirmed.

For more information contact Janine Froud on 01278 764 764, email janine.froud@nbc.org.uk.

Proposed access technology days for 2011:

February – Worcester

April – London

June – Liverpool

July – Newcastle

October – Cornwall/ Devon

November – Ipswich

Buddy dog scheme



Guide Dogs is piloting a new service aimed at enhancing the lives of blind and partially sighted young people by providing 'buddy dogs'. This will increase their confidence and wellbeing and possibly prepare them for future guide dog ownership.

A limited number under 16 will be involved in the initial pilot, but all applications will be placed on a waiting list and assessed accordingly. The young person will take responsibility for it, like feeding or grooming, and their ability to care for a dog and its suitability to their lifestyle will be assessed with the aim of a long-term placement.

The dogs used will be guide dogs that have been withdrawn or retired early from training or working but have the right skills and temperament to make great buddy dogs. Guide Dogs will retain legal ownership of the dog, maintaining regular contact and providing financial and ongoing practical support as required.

Email sian.caine-southward@guidedogs.org.uk or graham.kensett@guidedogs.org.uk

Important changes to benefit levels

- Changes to the Disability Living Allowance higher rate mobility component means some blind people will be entitled to an extra £30 per week from 11 April 2011.
- You must be under 65 and registered or certified severely sight impaired, although not all will qualify.
- The Pensions, Disability and Carers Service will be calling everyone who currently claims to find out if they are entitled to an increase.
- It will help speed up your claim if you have your certificate of visual impairment (a CVI or BD8, or BP1 in Scotland), or a consultant's report. Call us on 01278 764770 or the RNIB helpline 0303 1239999, or go to www.nbcs.org.uk or www.rnib.org.uk.

Eye Health Week

The 2011 Eye Health Week, from 13 to 19 June, aimed to promote the importance of eye health and the importance of having regular eye tests, especially for children. For details go to www.visionmatters.org.uk.

Getting together

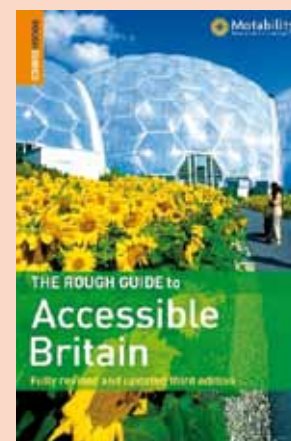
A London support group for families of children with disabilities has been re-launched with NBCS support.

The Bridges group is one of several such groups across the country where parents, children with visual impairment and their siblings can get together and share information and experiences.

For more information about support groups call 01278 764 764 or email enquiries@nbcs.org.uk.

New audio guide

Publishers of a new audio guide to accessible Britain are looking for feedback. The Rough Guide to Accessible Britain features



more than 180 UK attractions and can be downloaded free by Blue Badge holders. Go to www.accessibleguide.co.uk/guide/audio_guide.html

Increasing efficiency through technology

NBCS has taken delivery of a new Toshiba e-Studio 6530 Pro Multi-Function Printer (MFP) with saddle stitch finisher.

The new MFP with Fiery controller, installed with Spot-On software, will give the CustomEyes bookroom full control over colours. Also installed is the software package Impose, which gives finished booklet capabilities for the first time direct from the equipment and allows more in-house production, reducing external printing costs.

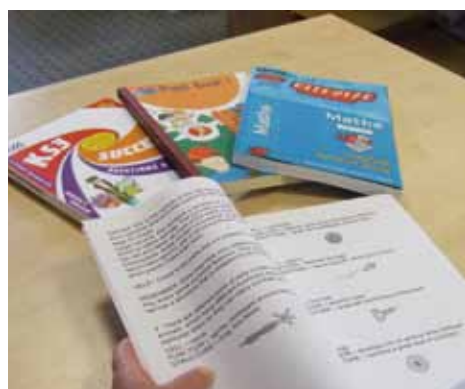
Combined with low temperature fusing toner this substantially reduces NBCS's carbon footprint.



Keeping up with demand

The NBCS CustomEyes books department is making the most of new technology to meet growing demand, especially from students.

The catalogue now has more than 1800 fiction and non-fiction titles, as well as more than 100 new textbooks and National Curriculum revision guides.



In addition to our own order book we produce large-print books for the RNIB's national library service but are still the only book production operation in the UK which tailors specifications to the needs of individual children.

We are in discussion with major publishers to obtain digital files of the books we need. This will enable us to reduce production times and thereby costs, and increase accuracy. This is a major step forward for us.

TOP TEN Winter 2010

Competition winner

The NBCS picture competition in our last newsletter attracted record entries.

The winning picture, titled Elmer the Elephant and shown below, was chosen by Richard Dyer, our Director of Finance.



Congratulations go to Josh, aged four, who wins a book of his choice from our large-print catalogue.

Our most popular CustomEyes titles

- 1 Goodnight Mr Tom by M Magoriam
- 2 The Hobbit by J R R Tolkien
- 3 Marley, a Dog Like No Other by J Grogan
- 4 Midnight for Charlie Bone by J Nimmo
- 5 Horrible Histories series by T Deary
- 6 The Butterfly Lion by M Morpurgo
- 7 Christian the Lion by R Knowles
- 8 An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley
- 9 Lord of the Flies by W Golding
- 10 The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C S Lewis

New to the catalogue



Takeshita Demons

by Cristy Burne

Approximate age 9+

Takeshita and her family move from Japan to the UK, unfortunately the family's enemy demons have followed

them! She knows she's in trouble when her new supply teacher turns out to be a Nukekubi - a bloodthirsty demon.



Warning! Aliens are Invading the School!

by Dinah Capparucci

Approximate age 9+

Jordan, Ryan and Boy Dave always get blamed for everything. And OK, most of

them it is their fault - but this is one time it definitely wasn't!



Z-Rex

by Steve Cole

Approximate age 11+

Z Rex is a living, breathing, man-eating dinosaur who has been brought to life by Adam's

dad. He can talk, think - and kill. And, he has no idea why he's here. Zed wants answers, and Adam's dad has them but he's missing.



The Dying Photo

by Alan Gibbons

Approximate age 7+

A strange man takes a photo of Jimmy's family. As the camera flashes, Jimmy's

parents vanish. The only clue is a picture of his mum and dad screaming. Jimmy is alone.



The Joshua Files Invisible City

by M G Harris

Approximate age 11+

When his father goes missing after an air crash, UFO-obsessed

Josh suspects alien abduction. Then he discovers he was murdered, Josh is caught up in a race to find the legendary Ix Codex.



Love Aubrey

by Suzanne LaFleur

Approximate age 11+

Something terrible has happened. Eleven-year-old Aubrey is on her own. She's

determined to hide away and take care of herself, because facing the truth is too much to bear.



Michael Rosen's A to Z : the best children's poetry

by Michael Rosen

Approximate age 11+

From Agard to Zephaniah, the very best of children's poetry

from the very best of children's poets appears in this anthology edited by Michael Rosen, the Children's Laureate.



How to avoid a wombat's bum

by Mitchell Symons

Approximate age 7+

Containing a collection of fascinating facts and figures such as the first ready-to-eat

breakfast cereal was Shredded Wheat in 1893.

Communication is the name of the game

Good communication is central to achieving successful educational outcomes for children with visual impairment, says NBCS Educational Advocate Glenys Critchley



If you were to ask parents what most concerned them about their children's educational needs many would respond: 'Communication.' Good communication is the key that enables parents and

professionals to work together constructively to help children to receive appropriate education.

The parents of children who are blind or partially sighted have a right to know their child has been recognised as needing extra support and that their needs will be fully assessed. Resources may need to be put in place for them to access the curriculum fully with their sighted peers.

Parents rely on professionals to keep them informed and provide emotional support, but some of the terminology in the field of VI may be bamboozling, but with a little description can be clarified. This is an important way our educational advocates can help.

The school is usually the first point of contact. However, while parents of a child with VI may recognise the need for extra help, they are often unsure about what to do next.

Parents can get upset, or feel they have to make too many demands and may fear upsetting staff when they are simply trying to find out what is happening with their child and how they can help.

Some feel that by asking for access to specialist VI resources they may be thought greedy or worry that their request for extra help might not be taken seriously.

Good communication, though, can help

lessen these anxieties and create a better relationship between parents and staff. Even a reply such as 'I don't have the information or answer yet' is a simple but effective way of letting people know they are not forgotten.

Attending meetings can be daunting for parents, especially when they are the only non-professionals in the room. They can feel professionals are unapproachable and may worry that they are making important decisions about their child's future when they might never even have met them.

More effective communication by professionals to parents, and vice versa, would help address all these issues.

Parents may welcome help from someone qualified and experienced in navigating the complicated worlds of learning with sight loss and special educational needs, and our qualified advocates can liaise effectively with educational and VI professionals.

It is important for parents to know there is someone to listen, to provide advice about legal issues and to give expert, independent and professionally recognised support in dealing with reviews, statements of SEN and tribunal reports.

The aim is to ensure that all parents of children and young people with VI can gain access to appropriate educational provision and enable them to achieve their goals in the best possible environment.

Extracted from SEN Magazine www.senmagazine.com.



Let your legacy live on

It only takes a few minutes to make a will, but a legacy – however small or large – can make all the difference to the children we support.

If you have not already written a will, you can use a standard form available in stationery shops or online, or you can amend an existing one by using a codicil form available in the same way.

Below are some of the common terms you will encounter.

Estate is the sum of your assets.

Charitable bequests are a distribution from your estate to a charitable organisation.

General bequests are legacies left to certain people or charities from the general value of the estate.

Specific bequests are made for a designated purpose.

Residuary bequests are made when you leave the residue of your assets after other terms of the will have been satisfied.

We recommend you seek advice when making a will. Charitable legacies are tax-efficient.



Keep on collecting

Like the vast majority of UK charities NBCS does not have the resources to run retail shops to bring in this essential revenue, without which we could not continue to provide vital services to the estimated 24,000 children with visual impairment in the UK.

Our partner care2collect carries the full – very substantial – cost of collecting, warehousing, sorting and transporting the recycled textiles for onward sale in worldwide markets where they are much needed. There is no cost or financial risk to NBCS.

NBCS therefore relies totally on the efforts of our supporters donating unwanted textiles, which result in about 40% of the charity's income.

Since the partnership with care2collect started NBCS has benefited by more than £1 million, with the added benefit to the environment that many thousands of tonnes of waste textiles are diverted from landfill.

You can be confident that the proceeds from your donation will come to NBCS.

You can make a donation to National Blind Children's Society in the following ways:

Online at www.nbcs.org.uk by phone on 01278 764764 or you can send a cheque made out to the National Blind Children's Society with this form to: National Blind Children's Society, Bradbury House, Market Street, Highbridge, Somerset TA9 3BW

I would like to make a regular gift of £2 £5 £10 £20 Other £ _____ please send me a standing order form.

I enclose a donation of £ _____

Please send me information on Events Leaving a legacy How my company can help

GIFT AID I declare that I am a UK taxpayer and that I authorise National Blind Children's Society to reclaim tax on any donations I make from 6 April 2000 until further notice. *giftaid it*

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Out and about this summer

Below: Families enjoy a day out at Longleat House and Safari Park



Right: Lunch at the Houses of Parliament



Right: Fun and games at the Thames Valley Adventure Playground



Left: Balloon bunny at our Longleat birthday party



Right: Time for a treat at Drayton Manor Park and Zoo



Right: Flying high at Drayton Manor Park

