

Issue 2
2018

ViewPoint

THE EBS NEWSLETTER

Chief Executive's Message

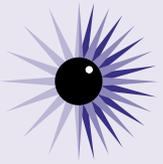
Welcome to our Spring edition of ViewPoint. I wished the sun was shining as I wrote it, but we live in hope!

This edition has some useful information, and a lovely piece of poetry written by Jack which we are sure you will enjoy. It also has information about the way EBS stores your personal details and includes a bit about changes to general data protection regulations, known as GDPR. This is important so do, please, take a moment to read it.

We are excited to announce that **EBS has now got a Facebook page** and we have just updated our website. Please consider joining the Facebook group on facebook.com/eastbourneblindsociety to keep up to date with things going on. The website can still be found on **www.eastbourneblindsociety.org.uk**.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the back page, where you will see details of the **Polyphony Spring Concert held at All Saints Chapel in aid of EBS**. We are always very grateful to the singers and hope that you will be able to come along and support the concert.

Deirdre



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General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

On 25th May this year there will be new rules about how personal data is stored, and used, by organisations. This will affect EBS too but nothing will really need to change as we have always been extremely careful about this anyway.

You may remember that you signed a form when you joined us, giving us permission to hold your details on file and use them as appropriate.

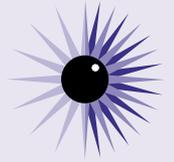
From time to time we have asked you to update your personal details such as phone numbers or email address, so that we can be most effective in helping you. We have always been transparent about what we use your data for, eg referring you to social groups or to refer you to other services which could benefit you directly. We have never passed on your details without your express permission, and we have never and will never sell or lease your information to any third party.

You have the right to ask us what information we hold about you. We will promptly amend any information found to be incorrect.

An abridged version of the EBS Privacy Policy is included in this issue of ViewPoint. If you would like to see the full policy, do let us know.

Please feel free to ask any questions you may have about any of this, but, do, please, be reassured that your data is in responsible hands.

Abridged EBS Privacy Policy



ViewPoint

What we collect

- Name and contact information, including email address.
- Demographic information such as postcode, preferences, interests and other information relevant to maintaining our membership database.

What we do with the information we gather

We require this information to understand your needs and provide you with a better service, and for the following reasons:

- Internal record keeping
- Improving our services
- Sending our newsletter - ViewPoint, or other information
- Contacting you on matters pertaining to your membership of Eastbourne Blind Society.

We will only retain your information until it is no longer required.

Security

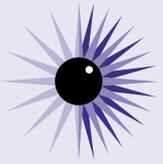
We are committed to ensuring that your information is secure. In order to prevent unauthorised access or disclosure we have put suitable procedures in place to ensure this.

Your rights

You may request details of personal information we hold. To do so please write to:

**The Chief Executive, Eastbourne Blind Society,
124-142 Longstone Road, Eastbourne BN22 8DA.**

You have the right to terminate your relationship with Eastbourne Blind Society and request that your data is deleted. In this case Eastbourne Blind Society will not be able to contact you for any reason until such time as you re-establish contact with us.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to EBS members, Barbara and Leslie Robinson who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 12th March.

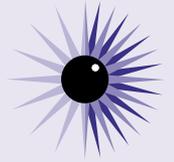
We also congratulate EBS member, Martin, who wrote an article about running for the last issue of Viewpoint. He has since completed the Hastings Half Marathon in a very respectable time of 2 hours, 15 minutes and 36 seconds. Well done Martin on a fantastic achievement!

Pete Lushington, is also to be congratulated for cycling across England in the C to C (coast to coast) challenge to raise funds for EBS in thanks for the support we gave his mother. Well done and huge thanks to him for his efforts. There is more info about this on our Facebook page.

We have recently celebrated the help and support provided by our wonderful volunteers at our annual Volunteers' Lunch. This year, we gave special mention to Adrian Ley, Kath Akers, Sue Hartland and Lindsay Crawford Jones who all received long service certificates.

Smoker's Lap Blankets

I have recently spoken to Eleanor at East Sussex Fire Service about something called Smoker's Lap Blankets. She has confirmed that these can be given out free of charge as part of a home safety visit if they are deemed to be helpful, and we encourage any of you who are smokers to follow up on this by contacting **Community Fire Safety on 0800 177 7069**.



Help is at hand

There are a number of things that can cause problems, annoyance and frustration for many of us. Some of these are the responsibility of our local councils so here are a few ways to report these frustrations in an effort to get things changed.

If you have problems with dog fouling, overgrown vegetation, fallen trees, fly-tipping or graffiti you can use the free **'Report it, Eastbourne'** app or call **Customer First** on **01323 410000**.

For those who have difficulty putting out your wheelie bins call **Customer First** or visit the Council's Customer Contact Centre (1 Grove Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TW) to access the assisted collection service for disabled people.

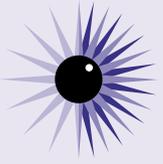
If you notice an issue with a road or a pavement you can contact East Sussex County Highways on **0345 60 80 193**. You can also report the problem online at

www.eastsussexhighways.com

or use the **'Fix my street'** app for potholes, dropped kerbs, blocked drains and crossovers.

Previously loved

Don't forget we still have a number of second hand items (phones, PenFriends, magnifiers and clocks) for sale at the Centre – please speak to Mark for details.



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Open Day

**Our next Open Day,
in association with
Enhanced Vision and Dolphin
will be on Thursday 14th June
10am to 2.30pm.**

**Please do come along to see the
latest equipment available.**

We are always pleased to receive poems, stories or articles that you think may be of interest to other members and readers of ViewPoint. We will try and include as many as we can in future issues so do send them in.

If I could choose

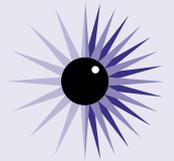
The following poem was written and sent in by EBS member Jack after his Welfare Officer, Elizabeth, read it and thought it worthy of being featured in ViewPoint. We agree, so here it is:

Thoughts occasioned by the onset of winter

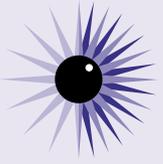
If I could choose
Where I would be
It's in a villa by the sea,
For there my morning-wakened eyes
Could gaze across wide sea and skies
Where shadows of the purest hue
Dance across the bluest blue,
And shadows passing, light and rare
Cast a sweet fragrance on the air
And in my tiny garden plot
Among that bright sub-tropic lot
Hibiscus stands in scarlet pride
With spiky plants on either side

My villa tidy, trim and small
Enclosed within a clean white wall,
With arched veranda deep and wide,
Would be so cool and quiet inside,
That peace would reign though storms without
Might beat upon its walls so stout;
Its roof of Spanish tiles would be
Against the garden's verdancy
Bright orange, such a sunny hue
Contrasting skies of vibrant blue;
Books would I have around the room
That might dispel impending gloom
When all the flowers bloom in spring
At home – and I'm remembering!

By Jack P King



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POLYPHONY VOICES IN HARMONY
PRESENT
The Magic of Music
at
ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL
20 MAY at 7.45pm
Doors open at 7pm
Tickets £5.50 in advance from
Eastbourne Blind Society
or Bonners Music Store
or £6.50 at the door
BAR and RAFFLE
Enquiries please ring 01323 729511
details on www.sovereignpolyphony.com

Disclaimer

Any items mentioned in this newsletter are for information purposes and their inclusion does not imply their suitability for anyone.

Edited by Deirdre Dean and Mark Simmons