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Blind and partially sighted people are being invited to activities taking place in Peterborough on World Sight Day.

World Sight Day (Thursday 12 October) is an opportunity to focus global attention on vision impairment. Peterborough City Council's Sensory Support Team has set up two key events on the day with the aim of connecting residents to services and to each other for advice and support.

Events being held in Peterborough on the day include:

**White Cane Coffee Morning - Costa Coffee, Queensgate - 9.30 to 11am**

Any Peterborough resident with a white cane and registered with a sight loss, can get a free cup of tea or coffee (sponsored by Peterborough Ortons Rotary Club and subsidised by manager, Adam). Adam has provided a reserved area for users of white canes and sighted guides will be on hand, to assist if required.

**Drop-in Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted - Central Library, Broadway, 2 to 5pm**

Open to anyone who wants to learn about the positive things happening for those with sight loss. Sighted guides will be available from the entrance.

Librarians will be standing-by to show blind and partially sighted residents how to download free audio books. Representatives from Calibre (the audio book charity) will also be demonstrating new user-friendly downloads. Bring along your smart-device for assistance. The local talking newspaper will also be there to ask what you would like from them, from 3-5pm.

Ever heard of Goalball or Boccia? Matt Taylor, disability sports development officer for Vivacity will be at Central Library from 2pm until 3pm. He has inclusive and adapted sports and pastimes. Come and challenge him to find a sport you can do, despite your sight problems.

The sensory support team from the city council's Adult Social Care department will also be available to provide comprehensive information on all aspects of sight loss.

Martin Borrill, one of Peterborough City Council's rehabilitation officers (vision impairment) from sensory support said: "World Sight Day is a global event but local people in Peterborough can do their bit.

"It has been proven many times, how rehabilitation gives a massive boost to someone's independence, self-esteem and well-being after they start to lose their sight. In Peterborough, around the UK and in developed countries, we have the resources to give people the opportunity to learn the skills to do everything independently despite their sight loss and on World Sight Day we focus on the positive.

"We're delighted that the Rotary Club of Peterborough Ortons, Costa Coffee, Calibre Talking Books, Peterborough Talking Newspaper and staff at Vivacity have agreed to help us celebrate World Sight Day, raising the profile and supporting more than a thousand vision impaired residents in our community."

Anyone who would like support, but is unable to attend the activities should contact Peterborough City Council's sensory support team on 01733 747474.

Additionally, a qualified rehabilitation officer is available to speak directly, every first and third Wednesday of the month from 1pm to 3pm.