

# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025



Welcome to the Spring edition of VisionPK newsletter. We have lots of exciting news and updates to share with you all.

A message from our new **Chair of the Board, Dr Beena Raschkes**



Photo of Beena smiling

Every day, VisionPK provides tailored support, including specialist rehabilitation programmes, support with assistive technologies and community activities. These services help people regain independence, build confidence, and stay connected. But without your help, we risk being unable to continue offering this life-changing support.

Ten years ago, I began losing my sight. Thanks to VisionPK, I received the guidance and resources

I needed to adapt and continue my work as a GP in Tayside. That experience inspired me to give back, and today I am proud to lead the Board of this incredible organisation.

We are running a campaign to raise much needed funds and ensure VisionPK continues to be a beacon of hope for those living with sight and hearing loss in Perth and Kinross. Please consider setting up a regular monthly donation or make a one-off contribution. Every penny will be invested back into services for local people.

You can donate over the phone by calling 01738 626969 or on our website [Donate - VisionPK](https://visionpk.org.uk/support-us/donate/) <https://visionpk.org.uk/support-us/donate/>

**Your support truly matters** – with thanks Dr Beena Raschkes

## VisionPK welcomes new staff to the team

Join us in welcoming our new staff to the VisionPK Team:



Photo shows cartoon images of people holding a multi-coloured welcome sign

**Jamie Fitchie** – Health and Wellbeing Support Coordinator. Jamie will lead on activities to support with physical and emotional health. Jamie has lived experience of sight loss and has some exciting ideas for future

**Eleanor Bath** – Many of you will know Eleanor as she will have answered your phone call or welcomed you at reception. She has now moved into the Sensory Support Coordinator role and will be providing hearing loss support as well as supporting people with sight loss.

**Jess Blanche** – Community Involvement Coordinator. Jess will be leading on volunteer recruitment, training and inductions. She will be a link contact for our community groups and will be implementing our new telephone befriending service.

**Kayley McKenzie** – Operations Support Assistant. Kayley will be your first point of contact either by telephone or at reception in the Sensory Hub. She will also provide operational and admin support.

Monika left VisionPK at the end of January. We wish her well in her new role.

**Board of Trustees:** We would like to thank Sandy Pearson for all his support as Chair of the Board. Sandy has stepped down but will remain on the board as a Trustee.

We would like to welcome 3 new board members, **Charlotte Gunnion**, a chartered insurance broker living in Perth, keen to support Vision PK from a commercial perspective and help promote the charity within the local community. **Jenna Glen**, has lived experience of sight loss and wants to help others through their sensory loss journey, and support them to live their best life. **Steven Thomson**, a Chartered Surveyor who can bring business expertise to the Board supporting financial planning and sustainability.

## VisionPK Giving and Legacies Event

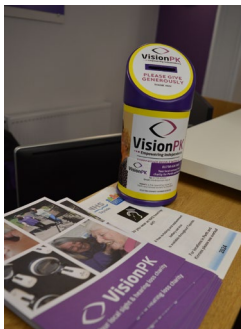


Photo shows VisionPK collection tin and leaflets

March is Free Wills Month and we are holding a special event at our Sensory Hub on Wednesday 26th March between 12 noon and 2pm. Come along and hear stories from people with sight and hearing loss and learn about the work we do across Perth and Kinross. We want to ensure people living with sight and hearing loss can thrive, not just survive, and you can help us with our mission.

Hear from a local solicitor about how you can make a free will and leave a legacy. Learn how you can support us including regular donations, fundraising or volunteering.

Spaces are limited – if you would like to attend please contact 01738 626969 or email [info@visionpk.org.uk](mailto:info@visionpk.org.uk). You can also book a ticket through [EventBrite](#)

Refreshments will be available. Please contact us if you are struggling with transport to attend the event.

## Come Along to Our Ceilidh!



Photo shows man and woman in kilts dancing with band playing in the back ground

We are going to hold our first ceilidh in our beautiful Atrium on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June from 7pm to midnight. Enjoy music from the Blackford Fiddlers and delicious stovies will be served. Alcohol and soft drinks can be purchased throughout the evening. Tickets are £20 per person. Get yours early as it's going to be a sell out! All ticket sales and funds raised on the evening support our work so get your family and friends together and come along for a great evening of dancing and fun.

## Spring Raffle

Spring is on the way which means it's time for our Spring Raffle! Please find enclosed two books of raffle tickets for you to sell to family and friends and of course buy some yourself to be in with a chance of winning one of our fantastic prizes, including DB&B at Pitlochry Hydro Hotel, designer sunglasses, theatre tickets and £100 cash prize. Tickets are only £1 each. The draw will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Good Luck!

## Future Newsletters

We are currently posting out over 700 newsletters, which is costing the charity over £1000. From the Summer edition we will only send a printed copy out if you have opted in to receive this. Can we ask if you do not currently receive the newsletter by email can you share an email address with us to send future editions to. If you are unable to receive a newsletter digitally then you can opt in to receive a printed copy. **Please contact us by phone or email to share your email address or opt in to receive a printed copy.**

Thank you!

## Employability Advice Drop-in

Throughout 2025 VisionPK will be continuing to work in association with the PKC Employment Support Team. The team can help with job searching, interview prep, job applications and any concerns at or about work. Dates for drop-ins at VisionPK Sensory Hub can be found below:

**02 April at 1pm - 3pm**

**02 May at 1pm - 3pm**

**04 June at 1pm - 3pm**

## Contact Us:

 01738 626969  [info@visionpk.org.uk](mailto:info@visionpk.org.uk)  [www.visionpk.org.uk](http://www.visionpk.org.uk)

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