

Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind Rotherham Sight & Sound Cairn Home

INSIGHT SPRING 2025

Providing opportunity, support, friendship and services to people with sight and/or hearing loss in the Sheffield & Rotherham area, helping them to achieve whatever they wish to do and whatever they aspire to be.

Contents

Introduction	2
Services	5
Feedback	12
Cairn Home.....	14
Awareness	15
Volunteering	17
Fundraising	20

Introduction

As an independent local charity supporting the needs of local people, we are constantly looking at how we prioritise our funds and resources to ensure all our clients benefit, receiving the appropriate support at the right time. We're a small team working very hard to provide a service that meets the many different needs of our clients, with over 7,500 people on our database this is no easy task!

A big thank you to those who took the time to complete the questionnaires that we sent out with the last few newsletters. The feedback has been very useful and will help us as we continue to develop services. Look out for the next one in June.

It's hard to believe it but our Mappin Street centre is now over 15 years old!! So we felt it was time it had a bit of a spruce up. Over the years the way we use the building has changed, so we have repurposed some rooms, created more storage and now the whole centre is getting a fresh coat of paint. We are also looking forward to having a new training kitchen fitted next month. We've tried to keep any disruption to a minimum however you may see Dennis, our handyman, with a brush in his hand during quiet times.

We have a busy year planned with lots of fundraising and client events already in the diary. We've tried to cover the highlights in here but remember you can find a full list online, or request a monthly activity guide by email or post.

We have also been busy raising awareness of the challenges that our clients face on a daily basis. We do this in many ways, for example by delivering Visual Impairment Awareness Training or participating in consultations. We have recently worked with both RMBC and SYMCA, but more on that later.

As always we welcome your feedback so please do get in touch with your ideas, feedback and suggestions.

Joanne Ardern
CEO of SRSB, RSS and Cairn

How to Access What's On at SRSB and RSS:

We have so much happening it can be hard to keep up! However, there are lots of ways to find out:

- Online via our website Client Events page (events are listed in date order): **www.srsb.org.uk/client-events.aspx**
- Our Service Leaflets explain the specific details of services offered by **SRSB, RSS** and **Cairn** and are available in printed or digital format
- Monthly large print activities list or email version (events listed by activity or group)
- Mailing lists for specific interests eg Culture Club, Children & Young People, etc
- Large print notice boards in the Cafes at **SRSB** with 'What's On this Week' that also have a QR code to link you to the list online
- Contact us by phone **0114 272 2757** or **01709 722 420**
- Email us at info@srsb.org.uk

Most of our Client groups, activities and events are available to our clients with both sight and/or hearing loss unless specified. **SRSB/RSS** clients and **Cairn** residents are welcome to access services in both Sheffield and Rotherham.

Staff Updates: We soon welcome back Amy from her maternity leave!

We're pleased to let you know that we've asked Sarah (who was covering for Amy) to stay on too. They will both work part time job sharing the Deaf/Blind Co-ordinator role.

Meet the Team: Sarah: "Hi, I'm Sarah and I began by volunteering with Amy (RSS Deaf/Blind Co-ordinator) in April 2024.

In July I began maternity cover for Amy. We now job share the role, each working part time.

"My role involves visiting clients or meeting them at RSS offering advice, support and recommending equipment, or making referrals to other services at RSS, for example, to the Welfare Rights specialists in our Community Advice Officer team, or externally, to organisations like South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue who can visit their home and perform a fire safety check.

"I attend events, activities and days out to support our hearing impaired clients.

"I've completed Level 1 & 2 BSL training which I began when I was 17, and I am currently doing Level 3.

"As I'm part time at RSS I also work self-employed as a PA in the Deaf community. I enjoy the different aspects of these two roles.

"In my spare time I am busy with my young daughter and family time."

Meet the Team: Danny: "Hi, I'm Danny and I'm one of the Community Advice Officers (CAOs) and I've been working for SRSB/RSS for 7 years.

"I previously worked for Court Protection and for another charity.

My role at SRSB/RSS involves visiting and providing a full needs assessment for newly registered clients, whilst offering support to

existing clients who require assistance with a variety of issues. I also specialise in housing and benefits law and, along with Carolyn, run the Welfare Rights Drop-In sessions at both SRSB/RSS.

“Every day is different and has its own variety of challenges, but I’m always learning from our clients. If you feel like you’ve done something good for someone, or advocated on their behalf, whether it’s small or life changing, it’s so rewarding and it helps you to sleep at night.

“Another part of the job I enjoy is being able to help relatives/carers to understand what their loved one is experiencing by showing them sight loss simulation tools.

“The CAO team all have different strengths and skills. We share our knowledge and support each other all the time. It’s like the workings of a watch - it won’t tick without each part working together.

“Our clients are inspiring and you meet people at different stages in their sight loss journey, picking up so much knowledge from them that you learn and can pass on to others; they are very inventive about finding solutions and I’m always in awe of what they come up with.”

Services

For any of the services featured below or any of our other services, you can call us on the numbers at the beginning of the newsletter.

Welfare Rights Updates: Each newsletter, we would like to highlight benefit issues that may be of significance to our clients.

Benefit information for parents

If you have a child who is in receipt of DLA/PIP and who is 16 years of age or approaching 16, they may be entitled to a benefit called Universal Credit, despite being in full-time education. They must also have savings below £16,000.

The regulations are complex and there are different factors to consider, but it is important to check entitlement, and if you would like to contact SRSB/RSS for a chat, please ask for Carolyn.

For any benefits advice or for a benefit check to ensure that everything is in place that should be, please contact either RSS or SRSB. We provide advice over the telephone, and we also have Welfare Rights drop-in sessions in both Rotherham and Sheffield if you would prefer to see someone face-to-face.

Life Ahead Service: Around Spring time you may be feeling like planning your priorities for the year/s ahead, so we thought it might be a good time to remind you about our Life Ahead service.

Perhaps you...

- Had a diagnosis of sight loss
- Had changes to your sight loss
- Just want to make changes

SRSB/RSS's Life Ahead service is based around a questionnaire designed to make the link between your goals (small or large) and helping you to get there by referring you appropriately to our range of services or those of other organisations.

Sarah B is our Life Ahead Project Coordinator and you can contact her for a friendly chat to find out more about the service or to book an appointment.

You can request a leaflet for more information or follow this link to more information: www.srsb.org.uk/Life-Ahead/

BSL Updates: T We continue with the BSL Advice Sessions each week on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm at RSS. We also have the BSL Social Activity Group, also on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm.

Sarah S, our Deaf/Blind Co-ordinator is in the RSS Centre each Tuesday and she is a proficient BSL user, so is on hand to assist with the groups.

We've also booked a BSL interpreter for several other events:

- The Fraud Prevention visit we had recently.
- The HealthWatch visit on 11th March at RSS
- The National Energy Action to talk to our clients about utility bills during our weekly Coffee Morning on 25th April.
- There will be a BSL interpreter at the Mikron Theatre performance at RSS in July.
- Our Culture Club theatre visits are always booked for the Audio Described and Signed performances.

Equipment & Technology: We'll be welcoming Optelec to both our Centres:

- Tuesday 15th April 2025 at SRSB in Sheffield.
- Thursday 11th Sept at RSS in Rotherham.
- Tuesday 30th Sept at SRSB in Sheffield.

- On Friday 11th April 2025 we'll be welcoming Sarabec ('hearing products for a better lifestyle') to RSS in Rotherham.

Tech Drop-In Days: We'll also continue hosting monthly tech drop-ins at both SRSB (10th Mar) and RSS (17th Mar) between 10am and 1:30pm. Each month will have a different theme and you'll be able to come along to discuss different equipment and technology designed for people with sight loss. March theme: **Use accessibility features on your phone to take photos**

Children & Young People: We're excited to let you know that we've been successful in securing some funding from Fight For Sight to develop a service for our younger clients which will be similar to the Look Ahead Workshops that we hold for our adult clients. We recently held a focus group with some of our young clients to ask for feedback to help us plan this service, so thank you to them for their help and ideas. More on this new service soon.

We also enjoyed a game of Curling for the group while they were at SRSB!

Please get in touch with Chloe about any of our Children & Young People's services [**cyp@srsb.org.uk**](mailto:cyp@srsb.org.uk)

Summer Day Trip 2025

We're already excited about the Summer Day Trip which is booked for Wed 9th July and we'll be going to Bridlington this year!

Please get in touch if you want to put your name down.

Andy's Man Club Visit

Simon will be coming to talk to us about Andy's Man Club, this talk is open to everybody (men and women) so they are able to share the information with anybody they feel may benefit from the groups.

Andy's Man Club takes its name from Andrew Roberts, a man who sadly took his own life aged 23 in early 2016. Andy's family had no inkling that he was suffering or struggling to the extent that he would do this, and as a result looked deeper into male suicide and men's mental health. They soon discovered that male suicide is the biggest killer of men under 54, with male mental health surrounded by well-ingrained cultural stigma in the UK.

Elaine Roberts and Luke Ambler are Andy's Mum and Brother-in-Law, together they came up with the idea of Andy's Man Club, a group where men aged 18 and above can speak openly about their mental health in a judgment-free, non-clinical environment.

Groups now operate nationwide and are completely volunteer-led, with all group facilitators having first interacted with Andy's Man Club when they came through the door as a service user.

SRSB: Wed 19th Mar

1:30pm to 2:30pm

RSS: Fri 21st Mar

10:30am to 11:30am

Mikron Theatre Visits 2025

We're delighted to be hosting two more performances by Mikron Theatre. These performances are always popular and enjoyed by everyone. They are very funny, but always very informative as well.

Dates are:

Operation Beach Hut: Wouldn't you trade anything for a trip to the beach? A centuries old tradition, full to the brim with nostalgia and escapism!

Wed 9th Apr 1:30pm to 3:30pm **SRSB** (with integrated audio description)

Hush Hush: Shhhhhh, you'd better keep it under your hat, because as far as the rest of the world is concerned, Bletchley Park doesn't exist!

Wed 2nd July 12pm to 2pm **RSS** (with integrated audio description and BSL interpreter)

Please call or email to book your seat as places are limited.

New Venture for Sheffield Talking News (STN)!

For over thirty years our friends at Sheffield Talking News have produced audio recordings enabling visually impaired people in Sheffield to keep up with local news and various items of interest within the city and its surroundings. The weekly news editions are compiled using items from local newspapers and there is also a monthly information bulletin, quarterly magazine and periodic general interest items.

All the recordings are available free of charge and can either be listened to on USB sticks sent through the post, on STN's website which is sheffielddtalkingnews.org.uk, on smart speakers or an app.

After so many years providing this traditional material, on Fri 17th Jan 2025, STN launched a new podcast called V.I.Pod. This is an exciting new venture and aims to reach a younger (as well as

young at heart) audience with an emphasis on the visually impaired community.

The podcast episodes so far have covered a variety of subjects ranging from a group providing innovative audio descriptions for theatre productions which incorporates a visually impaired person's experience of this at the Crucible's Little Shop of Horrors, a visually impaired person's trip to Granelli's sweet shop, the Chinese New Year celebrations and a trip to the sensory garden at Graves Park. More topics are in the pipeline and new podcast episodes are produced fortnightly.

V.I.Pod can be found by searching for v.i.pod from stn on Spotify as well as on Apple podcasts, Amazon music and Podbean by searching for v.i.pod.

If you wish to receive STN's traditional material on a returnable USB stick, please email on:

stn_mail@sheffielddtalkingnews.org.uk giving your details and someone will arrange this for you. The new podcast is not available in this way.

Sheffield Talking News look forward to welcoming you to join their audience. **Just contact STN on:**

0114 278 0440 or stnmail@sheffielddtalkingnews.org.uk

Please note: If you are in Rotherham there is also a Rotherham Talking News service who you can contact at: 01709 522429 or rothnewstalk@btconnect.com

Information from Sheffield Hospitals: We've been asked by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals to pass on this information:

Volunteer Support

A meet and greet volunteer can be requested for patients attending the hospital who may need support with getting from a drop-off location to their appointment/location.

Call the hospital on 0114 2715735 or email: sth.volunteer@nhs.net no earlier than within 2 weeks of your appointment. Please provide details of your arrival time, the department you will be visiting, where you will be entering the hospital and any support needs you have. We will try and arrange support for you, if we cannot, we will provide details of alternative support available.

Feedback

Our Stories: Our Stories: Gita.

We meet many people who make huge transformations after facing many different challenges, and Gita is one of those people who managed to turn things around through determination and courage.

She first came to us after having sight issues following a stroke 2 years ago. To explain the severity of Gita's stroke helps us to understand the many other issues she faced as well as the problems with her sight (Hemianopia).

It was a major stroke and she spent 4 days in a coma and had lost the use of her right side. When she came out of hospital she had to be trained to do everything - she had to learn to read and

write again, how to talk again, she was in a wheelchair and began 3 months of rehabilitation.

At the time of her stroke, she was working as a Design Technology teacher in a school and had a teenage daughter herself. So she was faced with many challenges, and says “I was coming to terms with a lot of issues and having to attend a lot of appointments”. However, with sheer determination and the support of many organisations and her friends and family, she’s made amazing progress. Gita credits her daughter Tonita for her support, “I couldn’t do it without her. Right from the beginning she took such great care of me. She is my inspiration and my shining light and star. I couldn’t do it without her and I love her so much.”

When Gita came to SRSB/RSS, she attended the Look Ahead Workshops that introduce new clients to our services and to those of other organisations, all to support them in their development. She was supported by one of our Community Advice Officers and says, “Carolyn helped me with so much, for example, enabling me to organise equipment at home and also with advice around welfare benefits.”

After hearing about our range of services, she decided to join some of the groups and activities we offer, and by going to showdown, curling, VI baseball, painting and trips to the seaside, she met other people and a new circle of friends, who also provide peer support. This is something we hear time and again about the strong friendships that are made after accepting our support.

Gita went on to make huge steps forward, and explains “ Walks that used to take an hour, now take 30 mins. I go to the gym 3 times a week and do 3 hour sessions to improve my mobility. I don’t give up, I am determined.” She has now begun volunteering at the gym she goes to, where she offers encouragement to

others and some peer support, and she's now also embarking on instructor training. She gives her time to volunteer at SATVE too, teaching English language to people who are new to English.

Gita doesn't come into our Centre as much anymore, which in itself is a success to us, as we know that she is enjoying her new life and is involved in lots of other things. She explains, "My life is more fulfilled now and I have come a long way."

"SRSB/RSS helped me to achieve many things and I know they are always there for me if I need them at any point. I've accepted a new way of life, sometimes I might have an off day, but I go out and shake it off!"

When asked if she had any advice for anyone else who is adapting to sight loss and perhaps other issues too, she says "Don't be afraid to ask for help, remember there is someone you can talk to whenever you want at SRSB/RSS, and meeting other people in a similar situation helps too. I appreciate all the help that SRSB/RSS has given me - they are great!"

Cairn Home

Staff Updates: We said goodbye to Lauren who has left to have a baby. Angel will be beginning maternity leave in March. Claire has also left, so Sarah has moved to the role of Chef. Our best wishes to everyone in their new roles.

We have just taken on another carer and would like to say welcome to Precious.

The sixth bathroom refurbishment is now completed and the seventh will be started soon. We also continue with the fitting of new blinds around the home.

On Valentine's Day we held a special Valentine's quiz and gave residents chocolates.

We're looking forward to two visitors soon, Hilary who is a singer who performs war time songs and Mary who does talks on various topics.

We're also busy starting to plan activities for Easter.

This year we've already had a 101st birthday and have two 100th birthdays!

We're all looking forward to Spring and being able to get back in the garden.

If you'd like to find out more about Cairn, please get in touch:
0114 266 1536 or **cairn@srsb.org.uk**

Awareness

If you're interested in finding out about research, consultations and feedback groups please let us know at **marketing@srsb.org.uk** You could help make a difference to changes in public spaces, organisations and venues by sharing your lived experience, ultimately helping to improve everyone's experience.

Update on Rotherham Town Centre Plans: Throughout the last year we've been involved with the new plans for Rotherham Town Centre and the project manager and team were keen for us to give our views on the current plans, as we've reported on in previous newsletters. The outcome of this has been very successful and positive for Visually Impaired people.

You may or may not be aware that a controlled crossing was removed in the first phase of the regeneration plans. We have been told that this is now going to be reinstated.

A safe route from the bus station to **RSS**, the Town Centre and Riverside house has been agreed, this route is very VI friendly and a lot of care and consideration has been taken to make your journey safe and accessible.

Green spaces are going to be raised to ensure visibility and contrasting paving has been used with a clear line of travel throughout the identified route. The contrasting paving will also connect to tactile marking at the controlled crossings and the entrance to Forge Island.

Missing tactile paving is due to be replaced and additional areas will now have tactile marking, this includes entrances that may be used for a vehicle, and all bus stops will have tactile marking.

The kerb edges will now be the traditional kerbs not flat surfaces or shared spaces, this is particularly welcomed where there is there is a loading bay.

Some of the planned areas were green spaces and trees which would have potentially obstructed the pathway, these examples have now been changed to ensure a clear pathway with no obstructions.

We want to thank the team at RMBC for their consideration and actions. They've also done some visual impairment awareness training with us to help them try to understand some of the experiences of our clients. Thank you also to all our clients who have taken part in feedback groups, your lived experience has made an impact and has been powerful.

Sheffield City Centre: We had a meeting with a team from South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) last year and then in January this year, a group of their staff took part in visual impairment awareness training.

We're looking forward to developing this relationship with them and working together to improve things for, not only our clients, but people with other disabilities as well as other pavement users.

South Yorkshire Mayor, Oliver Coppard will also be visiting our Centre in Sheffield soon, which has come about through the Campaigns Team at RNIB, and we'll be working with Maqsood (RNIB Senior Regional Campaigns Officer) and Janiece, one of our clients who also volunteers for the RNIB Campaign group, as well as being part of the Access Liaison Group in Sheffield.

We're going to do a sighted guiding exercise with the Mayor so that he too can experience (for a short time) what challenges people with sight loss come up against on the streets of South Yorkshire.

Volunteering

If you're interested in volunteering please view our roles online:

[www.srsb.org.uk/Jobs-and-Volunteering/Volunteer-](http://www.srsb.org.uk/Jobs-and-Volunteering/Volunteer-Opportunities/)

Opportunities/ or call Andrea on:

0114 272 2757 or email:

volunteers@srsb.org.uk

We give full Visual Impairment Awareness training and induction.

On behalf of all our clients and staff we'd like to say a big thank you to all our volunteers for their help and support across all areas of **SRSB/RSS**.

Norma & Janette: A Success Story Our My Sighted Guide service aims to build visually impaired people's confidence and independence, to achieve personal goals that they have identified.

Janette volunteered for this role, and Andrea (SRSB/RSS's Befriending Services Coordinator) matched Janette with Norma.

From the moment they met, Janette recalls "We got on straight away, our interests matched and we clicked immediately."

Norma adds "It's most important that you are working with the right person so that you are able to achieve what you have identified. We built up a lovely friendship and bond, and I feel Janette is like a sister to me."

Norma has changed a lot as a result of this relationship and both feel that she has achieved so much in comparison to how she was before. She used to be unable to go out on her own and was even frightened to go to the shops, depending on her daughter to get shopping.

Norma feels she is now able to go out and cross the road, and she has, over time, started to do this on her own. She spoke about how nerve-racking it was when she tried to go to Tesco but has slowly built her confidence with Janette's help. Norma says "The experience of finding someone I can trust has been great. In the beginning I would hold on to Janette, but I gradually built confidence and now I go off on my own whilst shopping, but I knew Janette was always there in the background. Janette is very capable and open to what I wanted to do."

The pair laugh as they tell us about all the jokes they've shared, their Christmas Lunch out together, their shopping trips and choosing items for the house and deciding on colours. A visit to one of Norma's favourite clothes shops was when she first went off on her own to browse, a big moment for them both.

Norma thanked Andrea for arranging such a good match and Janette thanked Andrea for her support and guidance, commenting "There is a structure in place to get the most out of

this role for both parties. And the role grows organically, with time to get to know each other. There has to be mutual respect and boundaries and this is discussed openly at the beginning.”

Janette talks about the pleasure she has gained from watching Norma develop and her confidence grow in so many ways – even things like going on a tram for the first time! She comments, “If anyone is thinking about supporting SRSB/RSS clients in this way I can tell you that you get so much out of doing this.”

Once this process had begun, Janette received training around vision impairment awareness and sighted guiding and she says “The initial training was great, and with Andrea’s support and the trust you build up, you feel safe with each other. You need to be reliable for this role and also be careful not to take away someone’s independence – you need to stand back and just support.”

Norma commented how her family have noticed she is so much more confident. She even went off on the SRSB/RSS trip to the seaside last summer with the group of friends she’s made at our Coffee Morning.

This project is based around achieving objectives and Janette will now support another client, but fear not, Norma and Janette have built up such a friendship they will still keep in touch and meet up!

Norma says “I want to thank Andrea for matching us - Janette’s such a special person no wonder other people want you!”

This has been a success through teamwork and just shows what a difference the right support can make. Ultimately the success of this relationship demonstrates what Janette’s support and

Norma's determination have managed to achieve, with background support from Andrea and staff at SRSB/RSS.

Norma finishes by saying "It's the best thing I ever did coming here (SRSB). Thinking back to what I used to be like and what I can do now I would encourage anyone who needs that support to achieve something to get in touch. I'll never go back to how I was; it's forward now for me!"

If you're a client of SRSB or RSS and feel you would benefit from a call from a Befriender, please get in touch with Andrea.

Fundraising

Our Fundraising Events are open to anyone to join. You can book online at **www.srsb.org.uk/fundraising-events.aspx** call Steve on:

0114 272 2757 or email:
fundraising@srsb.org.uk

The events we hold are a critical source of income for our local independent charity and help us to provide our services now and into the future in Sheffield and Rotherham.

2025 Here We Come!

We've organised lots of events this year and there are more to come, so keep checking on our website.

Here are some dates for your diaries, more coming soon...:

Elton John Tribute, Beighton Recreation Welfare: Sat 8th March 2025. 7pm £10 per person

Sheffield Half Marathon: Sun 23rd Mar 2025. Sheffield City 9:30am.

Acoustic Angels Beighton Recreation Welfare: Fri 6th June 2025. 7pm. £12 per person

Pub Quiz: Thurs 12th June 7:30pm 2025. The Old Queen's Head Sheffield. £5 per person

Free Will Week: 23rd to 27th June 2025.

Infinity Bridge: July 2025 Details TBC. Lake District.

Pub Quiz: Thurs 18th Sept. 7:30pm 2025. The Old Queen's Head Sheffield. £5 per person

Charity Golf Day: Friday 26th September 9am 2025. Hillsborough Golf Club, Sheffield.

Sheffield 10K: Sunday 28th September 2025. Sheffield Centre.

Blind Drive: We're planning this for October 2025. Details TBC

DJ & Quiz Evening SYVITC/SRSB: Friday 7th November 2025.

Pub Quiz: Thurs 4th December 7:30pm 2025. The Old Queen's Head Sheffield. £5 per person

If you're the daring type we also offer places to do a Skydive or a Wing Walk, these can be arranged with you at a time to suit you throughout the year. Please just get in touch to find out more.

Christmas Raffle: Thanks so much to everyone who took part in our Christmas raffle, and to everyone who helped us by selling them to family and friends for us. Congratulations to all the lucky winners. We raised an amazing amount of £3,595!

Take On 160: At the beginning of Feb 2025 we held a celebration event at SRSB in Sheffield for our supporters who each raised over £160 for us in 2024 by taking on a variety of challenges.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who could make it that day, but also to everyone who couldn't make it. The photo on the front of the newsletter is of the fundraisers at the event.

In total the team raised an incredible amount of over £18,000!

We're running this event again in 2025, so why not get involved and take on your own challenge or other fundraiser, aim to raise £160 or more and get that great sense of achievement, while helping us smash the barriers faced by people with sight and/or hearing loss.

Choose a new challenge, and get active, get creative or give something up to raise funds to support our local services. Take on 160+ for SRSB/RSS as an individual or within a team of friends, family or colleagues.

Running For Us: If you're taking part in the Sheffield Half Marathon in March or are planning to do the Sheffield 10K in September please support our charity by raising sponsorship for us. We'll give you fundraising support and if you pledge to raise over £100 or more we'll also provide a complimentary SRSB/RSS running vest or T shirt.

Our Local Communities: A big thank you to WI Nether Edge for their very kind donation to our charity for our Trustee Rob and his folk trio playing at their Christmas party! Very much appreciated - we hope you had a fabulous time!

Legacies: Legacies are incredibly important to our charity and in fact our charity began many years ago because of a legacy in 1860.

It is advisable that if you are over 18 and you want to ensure that your assets are given as you wish them to be, you should make a will. Otherwise, your estate is divided up by the government according to Intestacy Law.

It is only natural that you want to make sure that people you care about are provided for, but after you have thought of family and friends, have you considered leaving a gift to Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind (SRSB) and Rotherham Sight & Sound (RSS)?

What SRSB & RSS can do to help you make a will.

Making a will is easier than you think. If you choose to support us then we'll send you some guidance on what to do next. We can arrange a visit to either our Sheffield (Mappin Street) and/or Rotherham (Ship Hill) centres so that you can see the work that we do and how your gift would make a difference. We offer discounted will services during the year and hold our SRSB/RSS Will Month during October when people can have their will written for a donation to SRSB/RSS, both through a panel of local solicitors.

And Finally... Help us save costs! Can you help by opting to receive this newsletter by email or memory stick? If so, please email marketing@srsb.org.uk from the email address you'd like us to send it to and add your name so that we know who you are. We'll save your email and add it to the mailing list. Thank you!

Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind (SRSB)

5 Mappin Street

Sheffield S1 4DT

Tel: 0114 272 2757

E: info@srsb.org.uk

Web: www.srsb.org.uk

Cairn Home

58 Selborne Road

Crosspool

Sheffield S10 5ND

Tel: 0114 266 1536

E: cairn@srsb.org.uk

Web: www.cairnhome.org.uk

Rotherham Sight & Sound

8 Ship Hill

Rotherham S60 2HG

Tel: 01709 722420

E: enquiries@rotherss.org.uk

Web: www.RotherSS.org.uk

Registered charity number 1047257