

Welcome to Sight Village News. During this challenging and unprecedented time, we want to keep you up to date with the latest news and information from our exhibitors and sponsors.

Earlier last month we announced the rescheduling of Sight Village Wales and Sight Village Central. Planning for these events were already well underway and we were looking forward to introducing some new and exciting initiatives to you! Despite this, we are now exploring a range of possibilities moving forward including hosting a smaller event this October half-term at Queen Alexandra College but of course this will be subject to Government guidelines. We may also need to make temporary changes to the way our usual events run once restrictions are lifted.

As we continue to plan and prepare for future Sight Village events with you in mind, we want to hear your thoughts and comments regarding how we move forward and we will be sending out a short survey in due course. In the meantime we will ensure to keep in touch with you via email, social media and Sight Village News!

Stay safe & best wishes,  
The Sight Village Team

## Sponsor Updates



Many of you will know about the Summer Specials we offer each year at Sight Village, this year we will be doing things a little differently.

In order to do everything we can to support people working from home and offer the best opportunity to take advantage of the latest advances in JAWS, OpenBook, ZoomText, Fusion and more, we are making these special offers available from today!

This includes huge discounts of over 80% on software upgrades, SMA's, hardware such as the Focus 14 braille display, the Pearl camera, the new ElBraille and more...

To find out more about our home user specials get in touch with us:

**Email:** info@sightandsound.co.uk

**Telephone:** 01604 798070

**Website:** www.sightandsound.co.uk

### HUMANWARE

We are continuing to stay in touch with our customers, providing products and support. Our development team in Canada are working hard to develop new innovative products which we will be excited to show at future Sight Village events around the UK. To find out more visit:

[www.humanware.com](http://www.humanware.com)

### LOOK UK

We are sending out weekly newsletters to keep everyone updated on how we are responding to the current situation and what we can offer those in need. To find out more get in touch with us at:

[info@look-uk.org](mailto:info@look-uk.org)

### JW.ORG

There are Bible-based publications in over 800 languages available on jw.org. These include music and movies, as well as magazines and books in audio (MP3), Screen Reader (RTF), and Notetakes (BRL) formats. Also, the free JW Library app is compatible with assistive readers. To find out more visit:

[www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org)

#### Sight and Sound home user specials include:

Item:	Price:
Focus 14	£925.00
Focus 40 5th Gen	£2120.00
Pearl Camera	£275.00
JAWS Home	£115.00
JAWS Upgrade	£95.00
JAWS Home SMA	£95.00
ZoomText Mag/Reader	£95.00
ZoomText Mag/Reader Upgrade	£70.00
ZoomText Mag/Reader SMA	£70.00
Fusion Home	£165.00
Fusion Home Upgrade	£115.00
Fusion Home SMA	£115.00
OpenBook	£115.00
OpenBook Upgrade	£95.00
RUBY 4.3" Handheld Video Magnifier	£199.00
RUBY HD Handheld Video Magnifier	£275.00
RUBY XL HD Video Magnifier	£399.00
RUBY 7 HD with PivotCam	£499.00

**The ElBraille 40 5th Gen Dock is 15% off the sale price, making it £1,304.75 for the M3 version and £1,551.25 for the i5 version.**

Subject to availability.

## amazon

I hope you, your families, friends and carers are well and staying safe during this pandemic. Over the past weeks, Amazon has been teaming up with hospitals, schools, and community organisations around the globe to supply Amazon Devices to those in need amid COVID-19. We are donating globally \$5 million in device donations, which will help some of those who need it most during this time. RNIB (The Royal National Institute of Blind People) received Fire HD 8 tablets to help keep blind and partially sighted customers stay connected to loved ones, and access reading services.

With most of the country staying at home at the moment, we are offering a wide range of free audiobooks, video and more – check out **this guide** which includes all the information you might need. Alexa could also help if you're stuck with what to do today, check out **this blog** to get some ideas.

Stay safe and we will meet again!

### Synapptic Software keeping Veterans with Sight Loss Connected During Lockdown

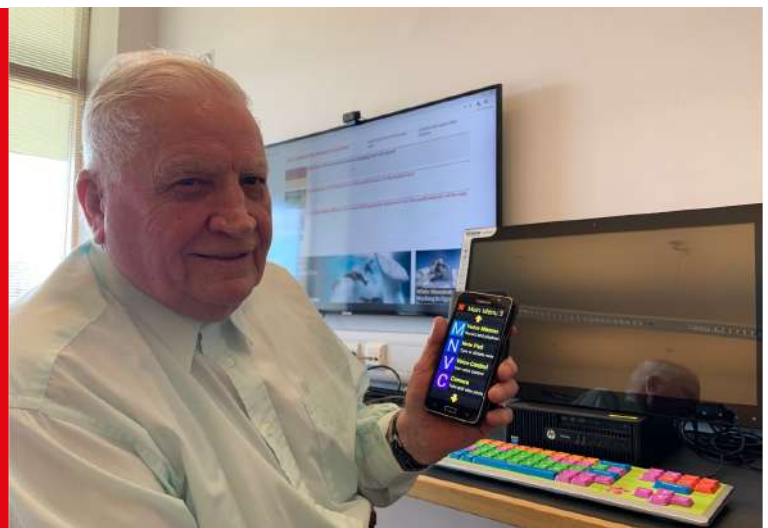
Veterans with sight loss are keeping connected during the lockdown, thanks to mobile devices featuring Synapptic software. The software has been designed to make accessing mobile technology easy, whatever your level of sight loss.

Tech-savvy National Service veteran, David Weir, 86, has been using his Synapptic smartphone and tablet to keep in touch with family and friends, sort out groceries and find entertainment while staying at home.

David has the eye condition macular degeneration and struggles to use standard screens and keypads, due to his low vision. His "life-changing" devices with Synapptic software feature in-built audio and magnification properties, enabling him to send texts, emails and browse the internet.

David said: "Having this digital knowledge has made a tremendous difference at this difficult time. Thanks to my Synapptic smartphone I'm able to text my family when I'm in need of groceries. I can write down my shopping list on the note pad feature on my tablet and I've been emailing it to my family. It can also read messages out loud to me and I can dictate replies. With being home 24/7, I'm using these devices constantly to download talking books. My vision means I cannot see to read. I can also use my tablet as a diary or for entertainment from YouTube."

David says digital skills can help to fend off feelings of loneliness – something many Scottish War Blinded veterans with sight loss say they have experienced prior to lockdown due to the impact of a visual impairment.



Rebecca Barr, Director of Services, Scottish War Blinded, said: "Devices with Synapptic software and the digital training we have provided to Scottish War Blinded veterans with sight loss, prior to this pandemic, is proving to be all the more beneficial for those individuals during this extremely difficult time."

Synapptic provide free telephone training and free lifetime technical support, with every Synapptic Phone or Synapptic Tablet package. For those who have an existing Android device, the software can be purchased separately. All Synapptic devices come with a 2-week money-back guarantee.

Visit Synapptic's website at [www.synapptic.com](http://www.synapptic.com) for more details. Or alternatively, call on 0191 909 7 909 or email at: [sales@synapptic.com](mailto:sales@synapptic.com).

Scottish War Blinded gives free support to former servicemen and women with sight loss in Scotland, no matter if they lost their sight during or after service, and including National Service veterans. For more information about the support the charity offers veterans with sight loss, call 0800 035 6409 or visit [www.scottishwarblinded.org](http://www.scottishwarblinded.org)

### The Pocket Voice: 'Blind Mode' By Pamtrad Seeing Solutions

We have been conducting some research and development on a new product called The Pocket Voice. It all started with us making a pocket magnifier that has built-in text-to-speech. This isn't new but what I will tell you about it is:

We have developed a new user interface for The Pocket Voice which makes it very easy for totally blind people to use and navigate the settings menu, we have called this 'Blind Mode'.

With 'Blind Mode', we completely encapsulate the 5-inch tablet in a case, it has no screen and just 4 holes for the software buttons which allow the user to initialise the optical character recognition (OCR), pause, forwards and back and battery life.

We have been very successful training people how to use it and it has been invaluable to the people who are using it already. We have only had one complaint: from the wife of a user who when asked was her husband getting on okay with it said "he's going around the house reading everything, I've got no secrets now."

We have now taken all this a step further. We have designed a special stand for the Pocket Voice which turns it into a reading machine. The Pocket Voice magnetically attaches to the stand when you are at home or at the office and when you want to go out just lift it off the stand and put it in your pocket. It's as simple as that.

The Pocket Voice costs £825 and the stand is £99, making a total cost of £924 for a super duper portable/desktop reading device. It comes with a wrist strap, USB charger lead earphones and manual.

For further information: Telephone: 0115 9816636  
Email: [info@seeing.solutions](mailto:info@seeing.solutions)  
Website: [seeing.solutions](http://seeing.solutions)



## Keep in Touch



Queen Alexandra College

QAC Sight Village exhibitions are organised by Queen Alexandra College Birmingham  
A National College for People with Disabilities

Do you have a good news story you would like to include in the next edition of Sight Village News? Are you looking for advice about one of the Sight Village exhibitor products? Or are you looking for information about services in your area?

Get in touch with us:

Email: [sv@qac.ac.uk](mailto:sv@qac.ac.uk)

Phone: 0121 428 5041

[www.qacsightvillage.org.uk](http://www.qacsightvillage.org.uk)

Follow us on social media for the latest news and updates regarding Sight Village events:



Headline Sponsor:



Sponsor: amazon

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