



LONDON  
VISION

## London Scene

March 2020

London Scene is a regular newsletter to inform people with sight loss about accessible activities and events happening around London, including local society events.

If you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter at any time, then please call 020 37613651 or email [info@londonvision.org](mailto:info@londonvision.org). Please note that a copy of this newsletter may have been despatched before receiving your request to unsubscribe. If you would like to submit local society events for promotion in this newsletter, please email or call using the same details as above.

Welcome to the latest edition of the London Scene newsletter.

London Scene highlights cultural events and activities – some are designed particularly to enable access for people with sight loss – while all of them will be accessible with a volunteer guide.

This is just a selection of what is available in and around London.

Please note that London Scene is for information only and the activities listed below are not led by London Vision (unless explicitly stated). We recommend contacting the venue directly for further information including accessibility, health and safety and ticket sales.

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

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Charity number: 1183741

## Exhibitions and tours

### **Radical Figures: Painting in the New Millennium**

Date: Thursday 12 March 2020

Time: 5:00 pm

Ticket price: Free Join Whitechapel Gallery staff for an audio-described tour of the major exhibition 'Radical Figures: Painting in the New Millennium', which brings together a new generation of artists who represent the body in radical ways to tell stories and explore vital social concerns. Presenting for the first time this new direction in painting, the exhibition features ten painters at the heart of this zeitgeist: Michael Armitage, Cecily Brown, Nicole Eisenman, Sanya Kantarovsky, Tala Madani, Ryan Mosley, Christina Quarles, Daniel Richter, Dana Schutz and Tschabalala Self.

Booking contact number: 020 7522 7888

Booking contact email: [access@whitechapelgallery.org](mailto:access@whitechapelgallery.org)

Venue: Whitechapel Gallery, 77-82 Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX

Closest tube: Aldgate East

### **Audio Descriptions at Tate Modern.**

Monday tours, please aim to arrive for morning tours between 10.15 and 10.45 for tea coffee and croissants and we set off into the galleries at 11.00. Tours usually last about an hour and 15 minutes. All events are free and no booking is required unless stated on the listing, though this tends only to be necessary for special events where the number of places might be limited for a reason. On all tours seats and earphones are provided. Companions and Guide Dogs very welcome.

### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00 am (arrive early for coffee)**

The Tate Modern collection displays. Join us for a tour of highlights from the Tate Modern collection displays given by describers from Tate's Visitor

Experience team. We will have permission to touch some of the artworks, so gloves will be provided.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern>

Venue: Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG

Closest tube: Southwark

### **Royal Academy of Music Museum tour**

Date: Wednesday 25 March 2020

Time: 2:00 pm

Ticket price: Free

Discover some of the highlights of the Royal Academy of Music Museum collection. Handle items and listen to the Academy's talented students playing historical instruments.

Meet in the ground Floor Gallery, through the Chimes shop.

Booking contact number: 020 7873 7300

Booking contact email: [boxoffice@ram.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@ram.ac.uk)

Venue: Royal Academy of Music Museum & Library, 1-5 York Gate, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5HT

Closest tube: Regent's Park

### **Art through words: Hogarth, The Graham Children**

Date: Saturday 28 March 2020

Time: 11:30 am

Ticket price: Free, booking essential.

Join National Gallery staff for an audio description and discussion of this month's painting The Graham Children.

Each session begins with a description of the painting and ends with a visit to the Galleries.

Please meet at the Sainsbury Wing foyer.

Booking contact number: 020 7747 2864

Booking contact email: Demitra.Procopiou@ng-london.org.uk

Venue: National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN

Closest tube: Leicester Square

## Theatre

### **English Touring Opera's Così fan tutte**

Date: Friday 6 March 2020

Time: 7:30 pm

Ticket price: From £10

Touch Tour: 6 pm

Audio described by VocalEyes.

Mozart's combination of glorious music and farcical comedy make *Così fan tutte* an enduring favourite, a story of young love and fidelity. It is in many ways Mozart's most perfect opera, and was his third collaboration with librettist Da Ponte, following their successes with *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*.

Director Laura Attridge breathes new life into this classic opera. Holly Mathieson conducts the forces of ETO's resident period orchestra, the Old Street Band.

Sung in English with English subtitles.

Booking contact number: 020 8985 2424

Venue: 291 Mare Street, London E8 1EJ

Closest station: Hackney Central

## **Disney's The Lion King**

Date: Tuesday 17 March 2020

Time: 7:30 pm

Ticket price: £35

Touch Tour: 5:30 pm

Audio described by VocalEyes

Julie Taymor's spectacular adaptation of Disney's award-winning film uses masks and puppetry to create pure theatrical magic.

Booking contact number: 0800 912 6972

Booking contact email: [Lyceumbo@theambassadors.com](mailto:Lyceumbo@theambassadors.com)

Venue: Lyceum Theatre, 21, Wellington Street, London WC2E 7RQ

Closest tube: Covent Garden

## **Everyone's Talking About Jamie**

Date: Thursday 19 March 2020

Time: 7:30 pm

Ticket price: From £17.50 to £36

Touch Tour: 5:30 pm

Audio described by VocalEyes.

Jamie New is sixteen.

Jamie is going to be a sensation.

Supported by his mum and friends, Jamie steps out of the darkness and into the spotlight.

Time to make your dreams come true.

Booking contact number: 0330 333 4815

Booking contact email: [access@nimaxtheatres.com](mailto:access@nimaxtheatres.com)

Venue: Apollo, 31 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1D 7ES

Closest tube: Piccadilly Circus

## Daughter

Date: Friday 20 March 2020

Time: 7:30 pm

Ticket price: From £12.50

Touch Tour: 7 pm

Audio described by VocalEyes.

Adam Lazarus plays The Father in this darkly satirical piece distilled into the figure of a very funny, engaging and deeply troubled man.

Through his powerful account of fatherhood, violence and love, we come to recognize the ingrained misogyny we see everywhere — within society, within our communities, and perhaps, for some of us, within ourselves.

Performed by Adam Lazarus and directed by Ann-Marie Kerr, Daughter became one of the most talked about shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2018. This powerhouse performance pulls no punches as it confronts toxic masculinity head on.

Daughter aims to open-up a conversation. Every performance is followed by a discussion with the show's producer, The Theatre Centre's Artistic Director Aislinn Rose.

Age Guidance: 16+

Booking contact number: 020 7223 2223

Booking contact email: [boxoffice@bac.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@bac.org.uk)

Venue: Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TN

Closest tube: Clapham Common

## Living with Sight Loss Courses

London Vision is working with RNIB and other partners to host informal, community-based courses to provide information, advice, support and practical solutions for people with sight loss and those close to them. We'll help you adjust to your sight condition, increase your independence and

boost your confidence. Our Living with Sight Loss courses are for adults of all ages, including friends, family members or anyone close to you. This two-day course includes information and advice on a range of topics from understanding welfare rights, staying independent, tips and gadgets for everyday living, eye health to hobbies and interests and other organisations and services that can support you.

If you have questions about attending a course, feel free to give us a call on 0203 7613651 or get in touch via email on [info@londonvision.org](mailto:info@londonvision.org)

Our next courses

Merton Vision February 26 and 27. To book call: 0203 7613651

St. Thomas' Hospital, March 4 and 5. To book call: 0203 7613651

Lewisham Town Hall, Catford 26 and 27. To book call: 0203 7613651

## Sports

### **Metro Weekly Blind & Partially Sighted Indoor Bowls**

Why not learn how to play Bowls, join us, enjoy the warm friendly atmosphere with some new friends!

Every Thursday to the middle of April 2020.

Time: 4.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Venue: Brixton Leisure Centre, 27 Brixton Station Rd, Brixton, London, SW9 8QQ

Contact: [Wilbertwilliams433@msn.com](mailto:Wilbertwilliams433@msn.com) or call 07956 352 199

If anyone is tempted to join us or just wants to know more about the game, please get in touch with Wilbert Williams

Contact: [Wilbertwilliams433@msn.com](mailto:Wilbertwilliams433@msn.com) or call 07956 352 199

### **Islington Blind Tennis Practice Session**

Venue: Islington Tennis Centre (ITC), Market Road, London, N7 9PL.

Date: 18 March 2020

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00 pm

Phone: 07775894136

Contact: laalmond2018@gmail.com

Cost: The first session is FREE £4 for Members £8 Non-Members

Important! if you are a totally blind or a beginner tennis player and you want to be met at the station please let Linda know by Monday for Wednesday's session.

Metro would always advise to phone or email the event contacts to confirm there have been no last-minute changes or cancellations.

For more information contact Linda, on: laalmond2018@gmail.com

### **Vision Impaired Rugby in West London!**

Do you want to try Vision Impaired Rugby? Well, now is your chance!

Beginners are very welcome

Date: 28 March 2020

Time: 9.30 am to 12.00 noon

Venue: Teddington Sportsground, Udney Park Road, Teddington, TW11 9BB

Transport: Teddington Station is about 10-minute walk from there.

Age range: 16+

Cost: FREE

Meet and greet: From Teddington Station, Email Daniel Lineker to confirm you are coming

Contact: [danielineker@thechangefoundation.org.uk](mailto:danielineker@thechangefoundation.org.uk)

### **SEABLE**

Since its inception, Seable's mission has been to provide accessible tailored holidays to the visually impaired community. Amazing and inclusive trips that can improve your well-being with our local trained assistance and tailored

activities to suit your needs and enjoy a stress-free holiday. The holidays are available as single travellers, couples, group of friends and charities.

From this year we have decided to launch a new group holiday format, you get the same perks as our tailored holidays but you can join a group of likeminded travellers. We offer 1:2 trained local chaperones, activities, accommodation and flights in 8 new destinations. The destinations available are: Rome, Cyprus, Lanzarote, Slovenia, Amsterdam, Sicily, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. Deposit is only £100 to secure your place, fully refundable if the trip doesn't reach the minimum number of participants.

You can find more information on many formats including braille, CD, printed, audio online, pdf and word.

Please visit <https://seable.co.uk/choose-a-brochure-format/> to choose your preferred one. Or call us on 02033756947

Activities across the capital

East London

### **VI Chess with Voldi Gailans**

VI Chess sessions run by experienced teacher Voldi Gailans of the Braille Chess Association take place every Monday from 2pm to 4pm at the Bromley by Bow Centre at St Leonard's Street, E3 3BT.

For anyone wishing to be shown to the venue, we can arrange for you to be met at 1:45pm at the nearby Bromley-by-Bow Station, but you will need to let us know in advance. The sessions will continue weekly and are completely free. Please let us know at least one week in advance if you would like to come, so that we can ensure we have enough equipment. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Voldi Gailans on 0748 4236531 or

email [vgailans@uwclub.net](mailto:vgailans@uwclub.net)

### **Inclusive Cycling**

Bike Works offer inclusive cycling in Lloyd Park, Walthamstow on every third Thursday of the month. Session time is 10:00-12:00pm and meeting place is outside the William Morris Gallery, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4PP. For more information, please contact Bike Works on 020 8980 7998.

Bike Works offer inclusive cycling every Wednesday and every other Saturday at Victoria Park in Bow, E3 5TB from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Due to its popularity, new attendees are recommended to turn up an hour ahead of starting time. For more information, please contact Bike Works on 020 8980 7998.

Bike Works offer inclusive cycling at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park every Tuesday, 11:00am-1:00pm. Due to its popularity, new attendees are recommended to turn up an hour ahead of starting time. For more information, please contact Bike Works on 020 8980 7998.

### **Inclusive gym sessions**

Ability Bow gym offers accessible gym sessions every Wednesday from 10:00am-11:00am at St. Paul's Church, St. Stephen's Road, Bow, E3 5JL. For more information, please contact Ability Bow on 020 8980 7778.

### **Digital Ability Inclusion Group**

Meets every Thursday 10am – 12pm

Venue: Dagenham Library First Floor Room 2

Do you have difficulties accessing information because of a hearing loss or sight loss, or both?

The Digital Ability Inclusion Group is about connecting lives; helping people to meet at their local library and to learn at the same time.

We will learn how to use accessibility tools and accessibility Apps on your mobile phones, tablets, laptops.

Join us to meet the LBBB Sensory Team with the support of DeafblindUK where we can offer advice and support as a group, and one to one.

Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to meeting you.

For more information please contact: Bernadette Wakeling 07772229294 or Solomon Abiodun 07932172777.

### **Coffee morning**

Coffee Morning with Blind Aid at the Bow Brew Cafe, St Paul's Community Centre, 83 St Paul's Way, E3 4AJ

Every other Thursday from 11:00-13:00 Next day being 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**Braille Buddies** Meet Every Friday at Dagenham Heathway Library, Meeting Room 3 from 11am to 12 pm. If interested call Abiola: 07983 552855

### **Beyond Sight Loss**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Beyond Sight Loss Group Meeting: Listen to a guest speaker and discuss relevant news and events. This is £1 per person for refreshment.

Time: 13:30-16:00

Location: Albert Jacob House, 62 Roman Road, E2 0PG

If you wish to attend, please email [ashrafia1@btinternet.com](mailto:ashrafia1@btinternet.com)

## **VIPON**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Breakfast Club: Come and enjoy a hot tasty breakfast amongst new and old friends.

Cost: Everyone to pay for their own breakfast.

Location: Aunt Sally's Cafe, 14 Pilgrims Way, London E6 1HW.

Anyone wishing to attend, please book your place in advance by phoning 0748 6862006 or email [vipnewham@gmail.com](mailto:vipnewham@gmail.com)

## **North and Central West London**

A New Coffee and Conversation Group for People with Vision Impairment

When: The first and third Tuesday of every month from 9.45am to 10.45am

Where: John Lewis Department Store, Oxford Street, Benugo Coffee Shop on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Facilitated by: John Osborne

For further information please contact London Vision on 0203 761 3651 or email [info@londonvision.org](mailto:info@londonvision.org)

## **South East London**

Afternoon Social Forest Hill

Date: Thursday 26th of March 2020

Venue: The Capital Wetherspoons 11 to 21 London Road  
Forest Hill, London, SE 23 3TW

Time: 6 pm to 9 pm.

If you wish to stay later that's fine but our volunteers will finish at nine so if you need help back to the station or to get to a bus stop we would need to do this just after nine at the latest.

Please understand that we are all responsible for our own safety, because this event is not been run by an organisation.

Remember you will need to pay for your own food and drink.

We will ask for a small contribution towards the volunteers food this is usually no more than about £1 from each attendee.

If you wish to be met at one of the bus stops close to the venue or Forest Hill train station just call Patrick's mobile or my mobile.

Looking forward to seeing you all again for a lovely evening with friends

Patrick's phone number.075067754Beatrice. (07980)416076

Acknowledgements: We are grateful to service users, the VocalEyes website [vocaleyeyes.co.uk](http://vocaleyeyes.co.uk) and [Metroblindsport.org](http://Metroblindsport.org) for their postings and related text which enabled this newsletter.