



Dear Friend of BWBF,

My name's Paul. As someone who's close to British Wireless for the Blind Fund (BWBF), you already know a lot about this great charity. But I'd love to tell you my story about how they changed my life – and how you could unlock that magic for someone else.

Growing up with sight loss in the '70s was different. No one talked about it. I assumed that how I saw, was how everyone saw.

At school, the message was "just get on with it". I felt like a Lamborghini with a shattered windscreen. The brain worked at full speed - I just couldn't see where I was going.

But then, aged 18, I got contact lenses. Suddenly, I could see better. But people also saw me differently. I saw myself differently. The ugly duckling had turned into a swan!

I took my newfound confidence and pursued a music career. Being on MTV was a high and, for a time, music was my life. After my first daughter came along, I built a career that would provide for her, and then her sister.

By then, my sight was getting worse fast. People didn't notice me adapting - following silhouettes at night, memorising spaces, magnifying text on screens.

Being independent mattered to me. I didn't have control of my sight, but I had control of my life.

But, then the financial crash hit. Things fell away - my finances, my home life, my eyesight. My life became very quiet.

That's when I found BWBF.

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**Together, we can make
every connection count.**

Your support today
will help us take the first steps
towards new services, offering more
tech and more support than ever.

**This Spring, we
are aiming to raise
£30,000
to help make this
vision a reality.**



The funds could help us:

- Recruit and train volunteers
- Run in-person and online training sessions
- Create training hubs where people can turn to for help
- Develop accessible resources for our community
- Provide our broadest range of tech ever

Your gift ensures that every every interaction, every session, and every connection we offer is meaningful.

Or rather, my mum did. She's 95 now and BWBF had supported her too. She said, "they help people who've lost their sight. You should give them a ring."

That first phone call mattered more than I expected. Not just because they helped with my tech, but because they were kind, patient and reassuring.

I soon got my free Echo Show, an easy voice-assisted speaker. Virtual assistant is an understatement! It's my companion, my soundboard, my audio encyclopaedia. Without it, the house would feel empty.

Most importantly, it's helped me make music again. I use it to develop my repertoire for performances, find lyrics, rehearse, and play tracks. Coming back to music is like the circle of life. I feel inspired again!

What BWBF gave me is huge. They lifted my loneliness. I feel like the best version of me yet. And it wouldn't have been possible without people like you.

BWBF isn't about tech for tech's sake. They're about keeping people connected, curious, and alive. And, this year, they want to launch a whole range of new support services. Where they've always given devices, soon they'll be doing more than ever to also bring people belief and confidence with tech.

But they can only do it with your support. Whatever you can give, know that your gift today could help someone make the most of their tomorrow.

As someone who's been there, I can tell you - that means everything.



Paul Quigley, one of the thousands of people BWBF supported last year.

