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**BRITISH WIRELESS
FOR THE BLIND FUND**

KEEPING BLIND PEOPLE IN
TOUCH WITH THE WORLD

THE BWBF NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2021

Looking to the future...



As we move toward the end of 2021, and as we enjoy the freedoms allowed to us by moving further out of the national lockdown, I hope you

and your families are all keeping well and are managing to get together at long last.

The British Wireless team are gradually returning to the office and while we continue with our doorstep delivery service – BWBFconnect – we are also looking forward to restarting our face-to-face support. Visiting our current beneficiaries and reaching out to engage with those we have yet to help remains at the heart of everything we work towards.

As always, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your support of British Wireless. Each and every one of you helps us take the comfort and companionship of radio directly into the homes of so many people living with sight loss in the UK.

So, on behalf of our beneficiaries and from us all at British Wireless please accept our sincere gratitude for being there with us along the way.



Margaret Grainger
Chief Executive

Did you know ...

All our communications are prepared in a variety of formats. This newsletter is available to download:

- **fully designed**
- **in plain text which is screen reader compatible**
- **as an audio file**

Please visit www.blind.org.uk/publications where you will find all our charity communications.

You can also request a braille copy of anything by contacting us on - **01622 754757** or please email julieh@blind.org.uk



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INTRODUCING SPEECH RADIO

POWERED BY BRITISH WIRELESS
FOR THE BLIND FUND (BWBF)



Speech Radio is free to download and available on both iOS and Android. Simply search for 'Speech Radio'.

Following on from the success of our first in-house app development – the Talking Newspaper app – we are now delighted to launch a groundbreaking new app, Speech Radio. Speech Radio harnesses technology that has never been used in a mobile application, allowing the user to control functionality and operations entirely by voice.

The voice-controlled Speech Radio app gives users access to more than 10,000 radio stations worldwide. When users don't wish to control all the features and functions in the app with their voice, they can simply say "speech off". The device's standard functionality will take over to turn off the command.

David Beard, our Application Project Manager, says: "BWBF has been working away now for the last 6 years since setting up an in-house application

development team. We are extremely proud to launch our flagship app at a time when access to radio is more important than ever. We're confident that Speech Radio will have a positive impact on the lives of many living with sight loss in the UK. It provides easy access to content along with supportive ways of accessing preferred content; the user could simply say 'Cricket' or 'New York News' for example to call up a list of relevant stations.

"We are extremely proud of the app. As a small team, it has been a big challenge to navigate, but our determination and desire to support the lives of those living with sight loss have allowed us to build a remarkable product."

Our Promise to You

If you do not wish to be contacted or you would like to change how we communicate with you please let us know at any time using the following details -

Email – mydata@blind.org.uk

Call us on - 01622 754757

Write to us at – 10 Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 5DZ

Visit our website – www.blind.org.uk