



henshaws

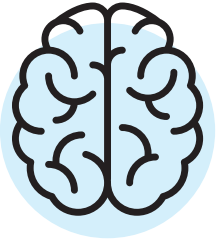
beyond expectations

a charity
supporting people with
sight loss and a range of
other disabilities to go
beyond expectations

**• a year in the life
of henshaws**

annual review sept 2016-17

values



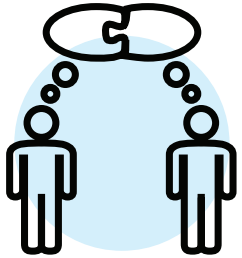
Informed

Always aiming to increase knowledge through experience, expertise and history



Inspiring

Through the life changing impact on the people we support



Sharing

Desire to exchange experience and ideas with others



Compassionate

Displaying empathy and understanding



Proactive

Actively helping and supporting individuals



Empowering

Encouraging and supporting individuals to reach their full potential

about henshaws

Who we are

In 2017 Henshaws celebrated 180 years of helping people living with sight loss and a range of other disabilities.

Our aims

Helping to reduce social isolation and increase independence through empowering disabled people to go beyond expectations and achieve their ambitions.

How we support

Our dedicated staff and volunteers are the fuel of the organisation; they provide support, advice and training, enabling people and their families to build skills, develop confidence, help each other and look forward to a more positive future.

Where we support

We work throughout the North of England and support people in our Specialist College, Residential and Supported Housing, Community Centres and Arts & Crafts Centre. We also support disabled people in their local community.

We are continually developing technology to support more people, wherever they are, through delivery of online assistance. Our Knowledge Village provides valuable information for professionals working in social care, people with sight loss and their families.

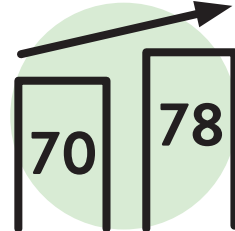


our year in numbers



20%

Increase in student numbers at our Specialist College.



4%

Increase in clients using our Housing and Support Services.



17%

Increase in people with sight loss we have given advice to.



9%

Increase in the number of Art Makers at our Arts & Crafts Centre.



50%

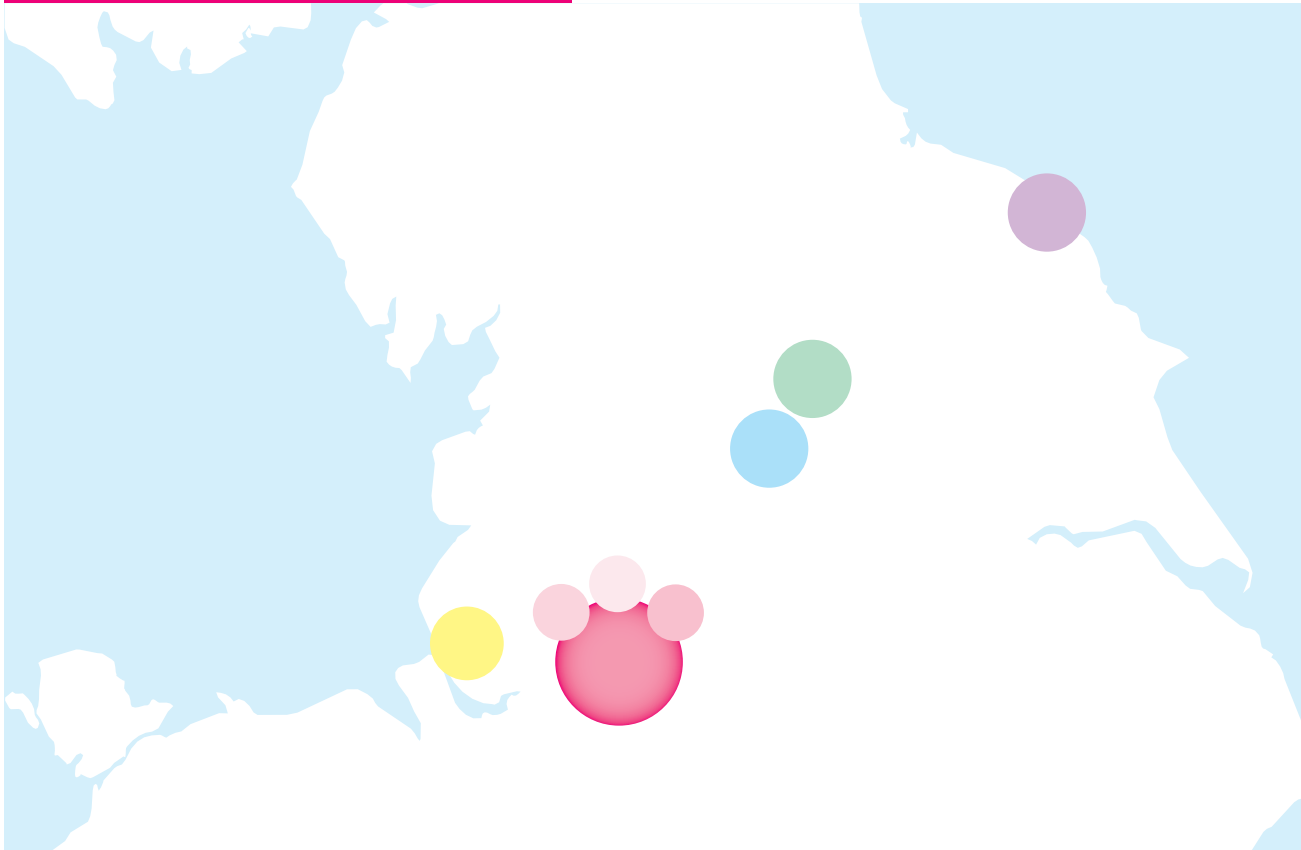
Increase in fundraising income.



23%

Increase in digital engagement.

our locations



new locations

Bradford Centre

Henshaws Bradford Centre opened its doors to our first students in September 2017 and we currently have 7 students, 3 days a week. All students have an aspiration to gain employment and are gaining experience through supported internships.

Henshaws in Bolton

Henshaws merged with the charity Bolton Society for Blind People (BSBP) in April 2017; enabling us to support more blind adults in the Bolton community. We continue to run BSBP's friendship and independence groups and also introduced digital assessments and training.

Knaresborough Arts & Crafts Centre

Henshaws Specialist College

Liverpool Centre

Newcastle & Gateshead Centre

Manchester Hubs:

Altrincham (Hospital)

Harpurhey

Leigh

Manchester (Royal Eye Hospital)

Oldham

Platt Bridge

Salford

Trafford

Wigan

Wythenshawe

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welcome to 'a year in the life of Henshaws'



Nick Marr, Chief Executive

Hello and welcome to our annual review which will take you through the year that marked 180 years of Henshaws working to change the lives of people with disabilities by helping them to achieve their desired goals and go beyond expectations.

Our aim is to help increase independence and reduce social isolation. We are endlessly amazed by, and enjoy celebrating the achievements of our service users, students, Art Makers, volunteers and staff. We trust you will find their stories inspiring.

Despite continuing financial pressures from reduced statutory funding Henshaws continues to assist people to change their lives. Many of these achievements would simply not be possible without the continuing generosity of individuals, organisations and communities. We are immensely grateful for all support and every donation.

If you can help support this invaluable work, please do get in touch.

Nick Marr
Chief Executive

celebrating some of this year's achievers



Arts & Crafts:

Our Art Makers completed a safety awareness day with local firefighters and police.

Specialist College:

A group of students showed resilience and determination to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition.



Arts & Crafts:

Art Maker Simon exhibited his work at the HenshawsGifts exhibition at Harrogate Theatre.



Specialist College:

Employability students won a National Young Enterprise Award for their Eco Threads T-shirt printing business.

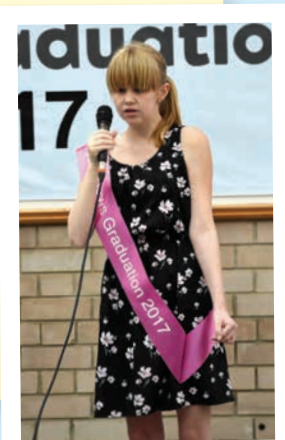


Specialist College:

College students litter picked in the local community in preparation for Britain in Bloom.

Specialist College:

Student Danielle sang her way to the top spot in the Henshaws Got Talent competition.





Community Services:

12 children completed a week long "I Can Do It" course at the Children's Adventure Farm in Altrincham.

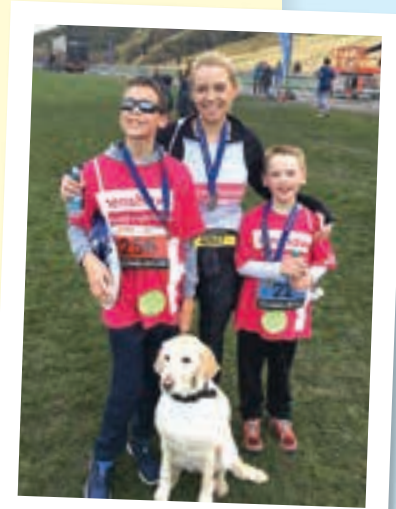
Community Services:

Amy Wright starred in the new "iSpy Sound Detective" show on CBeebies Radio.



Fundraising:

Rebecca, Ollie, Mikey and guide dog Jolly completed the Great Edinburgh Winter Run raising £1027.50 for Henshaws.



Community Services:

Liverpool Resource Centre set up a sensory vintage living room to promote dementia awareness week.



Community Services:

Gail, our Patient Support Officer, met with Sir Graham Brady MP, at the eye clinic at Altrincham Hospital.



Housing & Support:

Jenny & Samuel formed part of a mixed disability Triathlon Team completing the Skipton Tri for the 5th year running/swimming/cycling!



knowledge village

Henshaws Knowledge Village is a free online resource accessed from our website. It is a place to share our extensive knowledge and expertise with those experiencing or working with sight loss and other disabilities. Visitors can explore our video library and learn about everything from apps and technology to our useful Life Hacks, as well as eBooks with detailed advice on living with or supporting those with a disability. The Knowledge Village enables us to deliver valuable information to a diverse and remote population in a cost effective manner whilst still having the wealth of 1-2-1 support and expertise available through our First Step contact centre.

What we did

2016-17 saw a big increase in our digital reach to 3.7 million, which is the number of times our content is presented to someone through our social media channels and emails, along with visits to our website. This has been achieved not by simply delivering more content but producing better content, which is of high value to our audience and of practical use in overcoming the issues that disability can bring.

- **The Knowledge Village currently holds 45 videos covering four different themes and four eBooks.**

- **A new blog is posted on a weekly basis.**

- **55% of the people downloading our eBooks in 2016-17 were professionals, such as Social Workers, Rehab Officers, Optometrists, and OTs, working for organisations across the country including Guide Dogs, Mencap, RNIB, Birmingham Vision and various Local Authorities.**

- **About 50% of our downloads come from people who have a visual impairment themselves. We have had great feedback from people with sight loss regarding the impact the content has had on their independence and also its accessibility.**

To visit our Knowledge Village go to <https://henshaws.org.uk/knowledge-village>

what we achieved



3.7m

digital reach (40% increase on previous year).



177,438

engagements made (26% increase).



2,081

individuals signing up to receive information (9% increase).



684

eBook downloads (78% increase).



34,020

video views (36% increase).



174,194

website visits (8% increase).

“Many thanks indeed. I have been sharing the Life Hacks this week, they are super cool!”

- **Gwyneth McCormack**
(Director - Positive Eye Ltd)

“I think this is a very useful resource which I’ve shared with colleagues. It is very accessible for the viewer and very practical which fits well with OT!” - **Sarah (Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist)**

“The Life Hacks e-book was really helpful. I have recently been registered partially sighted and rather than wallowing, I chose to be a bit more proactive and find ways and solutions around living with my condition. The book helped to give me the confidence to be more independent and realise there is a lot I can actually still do.” – **Katy**





● maxine's story

Shared by Brigitte, Max's mum

Max is in her final year at our specialist college and is based in The Starting Point, a dedicated setting for students on the autistic spectrum.

“Max has a severe learning disability and has recently been diagnosed as being autistic. She requires daily routine and continuity to ensure her life runs as smoothly as possible and also needs to be kept mentally stimulated.

Henshaws has created a tailor-made personal timetable to suit her specific needs. This is comprised of a suitable education-based course, together with learning vocational skills. Max also does work experience at the café at Henshaws Arts & Crafts Centre every week – she really looks forward to this and loves being part of the team.

We have seen a real improvement in Max's skills and abilities in a number of areas, including reading, IT, swimming, cooking and life skills. Encouragement and assistance from staff have enabled Max to achieve so much and help her become more independent.

Since joining Henshaws College Max has gained a huge amount of confidence. She is extremely happy there and adores the staff and students alike. It gives Max stability and is an extremely important part of her life.

As a family we have had the joy of knowing Max loves going to College and taking part as a key player, rather than a mere spectator. Knowing that Max has been in the best possible place for her has given us great satisfaction and comfort.

We know that due to the nature of her conditions, Max still needs further and ongoing support in order to reach her maximum potential. Henshaws staff are extremely caring and are motivated to help Max do this. They constantly go the ‘extra mile’ without being asked. I believe that because of their help Max has thrived whilst being at College and as parents, we would wholeheartedly recommend Henshaws College to others.”

henshaws specialist college

Our Specialist College in Harrogate is a transformational place. Through our personalised approach to education, learning and care we empower young people aged 16-25 living with a disability to progress and live life the way they want.

Each student follows an individual study programme designed around their needs. Whether it is preparing for employment, making friends or learning to live more independently, we enable our students to make their aspirations possible and goals a reality. 100% of our students progress positively to their preferred type of destination after graduating.

Working with parents/carers and stakeholders, we have designed our offer to meet the needs of the Yorkshire region. The success of this can be seen through the continued growth in student numbers.

Our specialist staff deliver a wide range of health and support services on campus to enable students to get fully involved in College life and overcome any barriers to learning. In 2017 we opened a centre in Bradford which offers pathways into further education or employment.



“We created a personalised programme to suit Max’s relatively recent diagnosis of autism, initially focusing on building Max’s self-esteem and positive communication strategies in the safe, quiet environment of The Starting Point.

One year on and Max has increased her community access timetable and spends time doing work experience in the Arts & Crafts Centre café where she has found her talent for hospitality and catering. Max is now much more confident, is becoming less reliant upon 1:1 support, and is able to work more independently.”

**Aimee Jackson, Programme Leader,
The Starting Point**





● mark's story

Mark is a former student of Henshaws College and has been living in a Henshaws residential house since 2000. He also attends workshops at the Arts & Crafts Centre.

Mark has an eye condition called optic atrophy. This was caused by a chest infection crossing a hole in Mark's heart (undiagnosed at the time) and creating an abscess on the optic nerve. The abscess had to be removed surgically, damaging the nerve and so preventing messages being sent correctly from the eye to the brain. Mark also has Down's Syndrome.

"I like living at Henshaws – I am happy in the house and really like the staff. Sue is always good to me and has helped me to keep fit, eat healthily, and feel confident enough to catch the bus and get around on my own.

My favourite thing is being outside and going to different places, I like walking and going on the tandem bike. I enjoy doing all my jobs in the house – I'm good at changing the bed and doing laundry, and I even like emptying the bins and keeping my home tidy.

We've just got a new housemate so I'm helping him to settle in and making him feel welcome here."

Shared by Bob and Chris, Mark's parents:

"Mark is extremely happy with the house and his housemates. He has developed, over the years he has been there, a series of skills which allow him to live confidently and independently in a supportive environment to the extent that he now considers his Henshaws house his "home".

This home has provided a safe, secure, friendly and encouraging atmosphere in which Mark has been able to acquire new skills for living and which has allowed him to improve his quality of life. As a family we are very pleased that Mark is able to look forward to continuing to develop his own individual lifestyle."

housing & support

We have offered Housing and Support Services for people with visual impairments for over 25 years. Alongside our specialism in sight loss, we also support people with a wide range of disabilities to live more independently. Our services are based in houses in local communities, in ordinary residential areas.

In our Registered Residential Care Homes we can provide 24-hour care for long or

short term stays, including Reablement, where people stay with us for a short period of time (typically 6-18 months) to build their skills and re-establish their independence. We also offer Supported Living and a Home Support and Domiciliary Service, supporting people to live more independently in their own home or tenancy, and to access community activities.



“Mark has worked really hard to achieve the skills he has today. He can have difficulty concentrating and retaining information which has meant that he needs lots of continuous practice when learning new skills.

Mark has been eager to learn new mobility routes and would like to try some new activities in some different settings. He now travels independently by bus to attend workshops at Henshaws Arts & Crafts Centre.

During his time with Henshaws Mark has become a more independent, happy and confident young man. He has achieved so much already and we will continue to give him the support he needs to live life how he chooses.”

Sue Coates, Keyworker





● andrew's story

Andrew is 43 years old and attends Henshaws Arts & Crafts Centre. He has been an Art Maker for over 20 years and is a resident in one of Henshaws residential houses in Harrogate. Andrew is visually impaired with mild learning difficulties.

“I lost my sight as a young child but not being able to see hasn't stopped me getting fully involved in all aspects of life. Attending the paper workshop at Henshaws Arts & Crafts Centre makes me happy, I like being sociable with the other Art Makers.

I've really enjoyed learning how to make paper and, despite being uncertain at first, now love the feel of the warm pulp in my hands which forms part of the process. I've also made some teared-paper pictures which have been sold on HenshawsGifts, the Arts & Crafts Etsy shop, and have formed part of an exhibition displayed in Harrogate Theatre and in a café in Ripon.

It makes me proud that people are seeing my work and that's all thanks to Henshaws.”

Shared by Sharon Hockin, Workshop Leader:

“I am really pleased with Andrew's progress and I know he is very proud of himself. Andrew has acquired a huge amount of skills whilst in the paper workshop. He really is very independent when paper making which is fantastic as it is quite a physically complicated process. He has shown a great deal of determination to master these skills.

Andrew has also become the number one paper maker in the workshop. He has mastered every single step of the paper making process including using the blender to pulp the paper, to using the mould and deckle to make the paper sheets.”

henshaws arts & crafts

At Henshaws Arts & Crafts we make more than art. We bring people together in an atmosphere that never fails to inspire. Through our workshops, people living with a range of disabilities discover their talents, put them into practice and realise their full potential.

Open to all, the Arts & Crafts Centre in Knaresborough which is a community hub where creativity, friendships and opportunities come to life. Every week, almost

170 Art Makers take part in a range of workshops, including employability training, health & wellbeing, arts & crafts and multi-sensory.

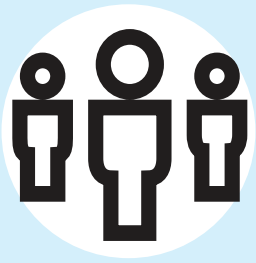
The Centre is also open to the public, with a fully licensed café, accessible facilities and green spaces. We hold regular events such as exhibitions, live music and craft fairs. We're proud of our vibrant and friendly atmosphere which inspires both Art Makers and visitors.



“Andrew has also been inspired to create. We began by using his love of tearing paper and he produced some fantastic torn shapes using different coloured and textured paper. Using these torn shapes Andrew then placed them onto some paper and created collages. These collage pieces look beautiful framed and are a fantastic contribution to the HenshawsGifts exhibition and online shop.

Andrew has become a creative, independent art maker. We look forward to seeing his future creations!”

**Sharon Hockin,
Workshop Leader**



• frank's story

“I met Gail at Henshaws Patient Support, and I got to know her quite well. At the time, my sight was deteriorating a lot, but since I’ve had cataract surgery things have improved. I still can’t go outside with my dark glasses, but otherwise everything went really well.

I got a letter telling me about the Living with Sight Loss course. I thought as I’d been in the blind world all my life, because my wife was totally blind, I could go and even if I don’t learn much myself, I can help others. I learnt a little bit and I passed on quite a bit from my own experiences.

Then Henshaws informed me about the Tuesday Group and I started coming there. I’ve enjoyed it – we’ve had some good times!

What I gained from the Living with Sight Loss course was learning how to get about, because at the time I was struggling because of my vision as it had gotten so bad.

I’ve got a phone and a magnifier. I can even read the telephone directory with the magnifier, which is magic! How many people can read the telephone directory? I can find the number and read it, and I can press the button to hold it, and dial the number whilst it holds it. It’s magic to me. Carrie took me through how to use the magnifier in our sessions. It’s been a big help to me.

With my phone now, the main thing is I can text by speaking, so I don’t have to write it out. When I get texts it gets spoken as well which is brilliant for me. I didn’t really know how it worked – Carrie showed me about it, it was very helpful. I use it quite a bit to get in touch with my sister in Hull, and my friend in Lancaster by text.

The main thing I get from Henshaws is the friendship and companionship. Everybody’s friendly, you can have a chat with people. You have the afternoon session and then you can chat with people afterwards with a cup of tea, we all mix very well. I enjoy the quizzes we have at the Tuesday Group – especially music!”

community services

Henshaws Community Services supports visually impaired people to make informed choices about their future and take the next step in life; whether that’s towards employment, accessing new technology, or meeting new people in our social groups. We are here throughout people’s sight loss journey offering expert support, guidance and skills helping people to fulfil their potential.

Our hubs in the North of England offer a range of services to provide visually impaired people an improved quality of life; from learning braille, to discovering new movies at our film group, or learning healthy kitchen skills.



“We first supported Frank to find a digital device that worked best for him. Synapptic was perfect as Frank could access it using his residual sight and through audio. Through our training sessions, it’s been great seeing how it’s enabled him to make calls, texts, emails take photos.

Frank’s story demonstrates how Henshaws’ Pathway can help people in a number of different ways, and have an ongoing impact in their lives.”

**Carrie Sant, Specialist
Occupational Therapist**



● alissia's story

Shared by Fawntoni, Alissia's mum

“We first learned about Henshaws at Manchester Royal Eye Hospital 3 years ago when we met Natalie, and she signed us up receive the newsletters.

I like everything we've done so far, especially when Ranger Rob came to the family fun day and brought all the different animals. Alissia also loved going to Children's Adventure Farm for I Can Do It, although it was very nerve-wracking for me as it was the first time she'd been away from home!

Henshaws told me about the Vision Team in Oldham. I didn't know there was anything like that – it's hard to find out what services are available for you. When Alissia woke up two Christmases ago and couldn't see, the Vision Team came in and helped her, including teaching her braille and provided her with an assistant 16 hours a week at school. Since then luckily her eye sight has improved, but it's good to know we have the support if we need it.

When Alissia was 3, she was diagnosed with chronic uveitis, which is a deteriorating condition and she is completely blind in one eye. Alissia also has arthritis which means she's been in and out of hospital a lot growing up.

Henshaws has completely changed Alissia's lifestyle. She felt like she was the only one before her age who had her problems, who had to go to the hospital all the time, but coming here has meant she's met other people who have been through similar experiences.

Henshaws have made it fun – it's a positive experience, it's not all about sight problems. Henshaws has made her not worry that she can't do things; she feels equal. It's made a really big impact because now she's been more accepting of herself.

When Alissia gets older she wants to be a zoologist, she's llama crazy!”

children & families

Our services for children, young people and their families provide specialist support, advice and guidance as well as fun and stimulating activities. We are experienced in working with babies, children and parents living with sight loss, often with additional complex needs and disabilities. We know that the key to supporting children with sight

loss is the support we give to mums, dads, carers and family members. We do this through a wide range of services including parent and toddler groups, school holiday activities for the whole family and activities to help children and young people to gain skills and experience to become independent and confident young adults.



“The best bit about Henshaws is all the fun activities and trips to go on, like the Children’s Adventure Farm. I’ve made friends here and we talk with each other outside the group.

Since coming to Henshaws, I’m more confident to talk to people I don’t know. I’d recommend to other children with sight loss to go to Henshaws; it’ll help you and it’s a good experience.”

Alissia, age 12



• our amazing supporters

We couldn't support those we work with without the generosity of our fantastic community of fundraisers.

neville's story – leaving a gift in his will

Born in Leicester in 1934, Neville Osborn devoted his life's work to the Electricity industry, working in the East Midlands and later in the north of England and Scotland. He completed the later years of his work and retirement close to our Arts & Crafts Centre in Knaresborough and was well known within the local area as a real 'gentleman', courteous, respectful and impeccably dressed. In his will, Neville left Henshaws a gift to continue our work with people with disabilities in the local area which we will use to help develop some new workshops at the Arts and Crafts Centre and to convert one of the houses at our college to create a home for 4 young people with disabilities to live independently in a safe environment.



“Neville's generosity will make a real difference to those with disabilities in North Yorkshire and we are extremely grateful that he chose to support Henshaws. Without donors like him, we wouldn't be able to provide the care and support needed by those we work with.”

To find out more about how you could leave a gift in your will to Henshaws, contact Fiona Ashcroft, Director of Fundraising on Fiona.ashcroft@henshaws.org.uk or 0300 222 5555

elli's story – fundraising

Elli Dixon has been a friendly face around Henshaws for a number of years promoting wellbeing through her weekly Yoga classes. Elli's classes allow service users, of all sight levels, a chance to improve their wellbeing, fitness and agility through structured sessions that are adapted depending on the individuals involved. Last year, to celebrate Henshaws' 180th Anniversary, Elli went beyond expectations by holding a '180 salutations for 180 years of Henshaws' yoga class. Participants performed 180 yoga flows and there was even a spot of blindfolded yoga taking place with the class raising an amazing £581.05 to go towards Henshaws' services in Greater Manchester.

"I witness the effect the yoga sessions can have on people every week. You can see that participants are more relaxed and at ease once they have taken part in a class; it's great to see the impact it can have. I wanted to do something a bit different for the 180th. The blindfolded yoga in particular was a big hit as it allowed people to experience the class as a lot of people with a visual impairment do. I'm incredibly grateful for all the kind donations we received."

Elli Dixon

Henshaws was founded by a legacy donation from Thomas Henshaw in 1810 and donations from individuals and organisations continue to play a vital part in our work today. We are so grateful to all our fundraising community for taking on incredible challenges and raising money to enable disabled people to live more independently. Our services rely on the fundraising efforts of supporters like you. To learn more about the variety of ways you could fundraise for Henshaws, head to henshaws.org.uk/fundraise or call 0300 222 5555.



● what donations can achieve

£5

All donations count! This year £45,000 was raised for Henshaws through donations of £5 or less. This amount could fund our patient support services at the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital and Altrincham Eye Clinic for a year, providing advice and support for people with sight loss when they need it most.



£25 supports the costs of a Henshaws Patient Support Officer providing 1-2-1 support to a person newly diagnosed with sight loss, offering crucial practical and emotional support to help them come to terms with their condition and move forward positively with their life.

£25

£250

£250 supports the costs of our Life Hack videos, providing tips and tricks for those living with sight loss to help them maintain their independence and live life to the full. These are a critical element of our increasingly popular and informative Knowledge Village.

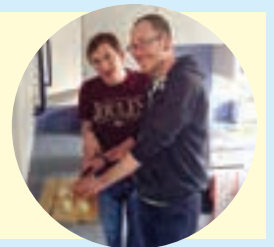


£1000 supports the annual costs of materials needed to run a workshop at the Henshaws Arts & Crafts Centre, enabling people with disabilities to choose from a wide range of weekly workshop activities including art, textiles, woodwork, paper, jewellery, pottery and multi sensory where creativity is explored whilst personal and communication skills are developed.

£1,000

£20,000

£20,000 could support the refurbishment of much needed accessible housing, allowing those living with complex learning needs and disabilities to live as independently as possible, build skills and confidence, engage with their community and live life to the full.



funded projects

IT Workshop at Arts & Crafts

Henshaws IT workshops offer attendees a fun and sociable place in which to gain keyboard and mouse skills, access the internet in a safe and controlled environment, learn about accessibility features and software (including voice software that reads web content out loud), and discover how social media and emails can help them to keep in touch with friends and family. Staying safe online is also an important aspect of all sessions – a key skill for vulnerable people.

Relocating the IT workshop to the Arts & Crafts Centre created increased capacity effectively doubling the total weekly sessions from four to eight per week and increased our capacity to 64 people. It has also enabled our students to develop an Online Shop supporting more people with disabilities to gain crucial IT and vocational skills.



First Step

First Step is a life-changing telephone advice line for visually impaired people and their families, extending Henshaws' reach to those who are the most isolated and in desperate need of our support. From our Manchester Community Services centre we currently support over 7,400 people. Each month on average, we support 70 new people. We have plans to grow the number of visually impaired people supported to over 10,000 within three years, providing crucial emotional and practical support in their preferred communication format.

Oldham Children's Services and Eye Health Work in Schools

Over the last year, with the generous support of charitable trusts and a local company, Henshaws has been able to deliver a range of support for children and young people with a visual impairment in Oldham, and to work with local schools to raise awareness of sight loss and the impact it can have.

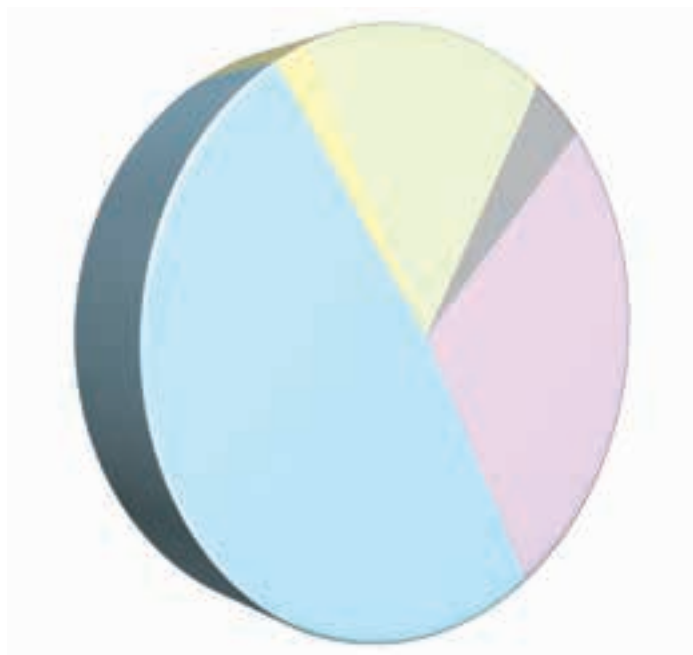
Sight loss in children can be extremely frightening for both the child and their family. Without intervention a visual impairment can have a profound effect on a child's ability to communicate and interact, and they are at risk of falling behind across a range of emotional and social skills. Henshaws provide the services, information and support that help these children go beyond expectations. Henshaws Children and Young People's project in Oldham won the 'Together We Are Stronger' award from Visionary at their 2017 annual conference.



our finances

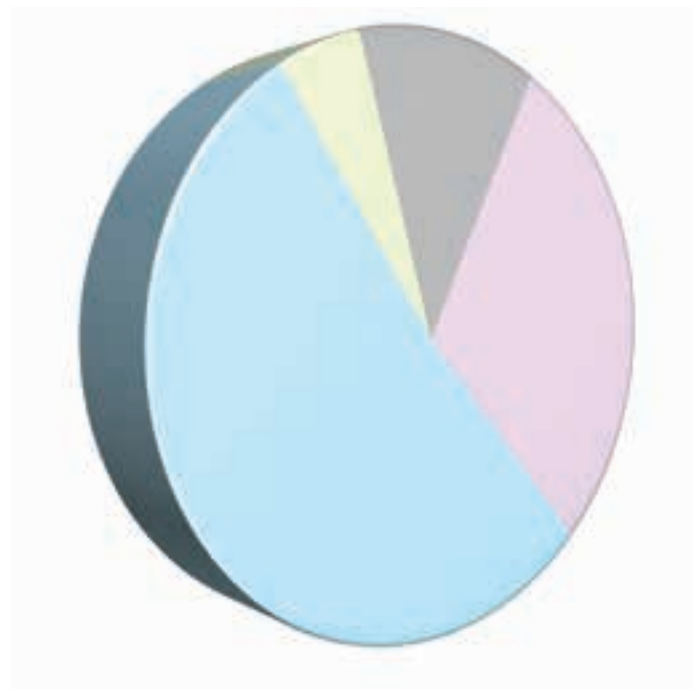
The charts give an overview of our income and expenditure for the year-ended 31 August 2017

Income £10,214,000



- Education & Training (48%)
- Housing & Support (30%)
- Community Services (4%)
- Fundraising & Income generation (16%)
- Investment/other Income (2%)

Expenditure £11,274,000



- Education & Training (52%)
- Housing & Support (31%)
- Community Services (12%)
- Fundraising & Income generation (5%)
- Investment (0%)

our people

Trustee Board

Jane Haywood: Chairperson
(appointed 26 June 2017)

Howard Cockeram: Chairman
(resigned 10 February 2017)

John Crowther: Treasurer

Carl Atkinson
(appointed 6 September 2016)

Ryan Barber
(appointed 6 September 2016)

Sally Bence
(appointed 21 March 2017)

Dr Anthony Best

Helen Brazier

Russell Davidson
(appointed 6 September 2016)

Jesse Harris

David Martin
(resigned 19 September 2017)

Frank McFarlane
(resigned 11 March 2017)

Chris Partington

Richard Platt
(appointed 20 June 2017)

Andrew Rose

Senior Management Team

Nick Marr
Chief Executive

Melanie Avis
Deputy Chief Executive

Angela North
College Principal

Robert Cooper
Director of Community Services

Fiona Ashcroft
Director of Fundraising

Wendy Harrison
Director of Housing and Support

Patrons

Sir James Anderton CBE QPM DL

Sir David Barnes

Denis Brown

Peter Hadfield OBE JP DL FRSA
(resigned 30th November 2016)

Baroness Susan Masham of Ilton
The Zochonis Charitable Trust
(appointed 15th June 2017)

Ambassadors

Stefan Andrusyshyn

Phil Collins

Sir Ken Dodd OBE

Paula Lane

Denise Leigh

DJ Rory Hoy

Harold F Riley

Hannah Russell MBE

Ambassadors

Tom Shaw

Rosie King

Sharon King

David Steele

President

Mr. Warren J. Smith KStJ JP DLitt LLD, H.M.
Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

staff & volunteers

None of these stories would be possible without the continued commitment of our amazing teams of staff and volunteers. We have over 400 members of staff and over 200 volunteers who help to make a real difference to the lives of people we support, every day.

To find out more about any current staff or volunteer opportunities visit henshaws.org.uk

We are immensely proud and grateful to our teams of amazing volunteers. Their selfless passion, compassion and enthusiasm is an inspiration to us all. Without volunteers providing their time and skills, we would not be able to provide many of our life changing services.



volunteer - pauline's story



Pauline connected with Henshaws by attending our Oldham Tech Talk sessions since they started in 2017. Before she attended the monthly sessions she didn't have a smartphone or really engage with technology but feels now what she has learned "has completely changed my life".

Pauline has Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) which is characterised by progressive degeneration of the retina, which causes gradual loss of vision. Pauline started volunteering with Henshaws by helping out with groups and events, including representing the charity out in the Oldham community. Since then she has set up a group in collaboration with Henshaws and Age UK, providing activities for older people with or without sight loss called 'Aging Together'. She says "Because of all the help and guidance from Henshaws, I am now in a position to be able to give back and support others."

volunteer - neil's story

“I get so much more than I give from volunteering with Henshaws.

I became a volunteer and a member of the Arts & Crafts Centre Steering Committee in 2016 and initially shadowed a number of workshops in order to gain an insight into what the centre does. The Arts & Crafts Centre is an amazing place with inspirational Art Makers and staff. Each time I visit I am greeted with welcoming handshakes, shouts of “you’re back” and beaming smiles. I have never met a happier group of people.

All your own worries soon disappear when you see the determination and skills shown by the Art Makers as they happily create their pieces of art, many of which are sold in the Centre shop or on HenshawsGifts, the online Etsy shop. The delight that is shown by staff and Art Makers alike when they find out that one of their creations has been sold is truly amazing to witness. These moments are why I volunteer and why I would be lost without my weekly visits to Knaresborough.

Thank you to all the Henshaws staff and Art Makers, it is a privilege to help and assist wherever I can.”



Interested in becoming a volunteer?

We always need volunteers to help across our services in all our regions. Whether you’ve got a skill you’d like to share, or you’re looking for an opportunity to learn something new, we’d love to hear from you. Remember volunteering can also be done from home!

If you’re interested in volunteering please email volunteer@henshaws.org.uk

how you can get involved

As a local charity we rely on generous people, organisations and communities to be able to continue to offer support to those most at risk of isolation.

This year saw 64 businesses support us through staff fundraising, sponsorship or corporate donations. 3,064 individuals gave a regular or one-off gift, 48 community groups showed their support and 64 grant giving bodies supported a range of projects of all sizes. We were also notified that nine generous supporters left us a gift in their will.

We are hugely grateful for their commitment to Henshaws; every donation truly does make a difference.



If you would like to get involved this year then please visit our website [henshaws.org.uk](https://www.henshaws.org.uk) email fundraising@henshaws.org.uk or call the team on 0300 222 5555





beyond expectations

Supporting people with sight loss and a range of other disabilities to go beyond expectations

thank you

We would like to express heartfelt thanks to all those who played a key role in supporting Henshaws in 2016/17. The continuing generosity and commitment of our local supporters, volunteers, partners and funders throughout the past year has been crucial to our success – thank you all.

In addition, we are extremely grateful for all those who have left Henshaws a gift in their Will and for those who support Henshaws on a regular basis, allowing us to plan for our future. The following grant makers, organisations and individuals had a significant impact this year by generously donating in excess of £5,000:

An Anonymous Donor

Mr N Abbott

Mrs A Bacon

The Michael Bishop Foundation

Mr E Davis

Miss M E Donohoe

Mr P Jewett

Mr J Kelsey

Mr N Osborn

Mrs B Osborne

The Stoller Charitable Trust

Barclays Bank plc

BBC Children in Need

Big Lottery Fund

Cash for Kids

Cargill

Yorkshire Events Committee

Esprit

Lights4Fun

Liverpool City Council

Newman's Own Foundation

Pilkington Charities Fund

St James's Place Foundation

The George A Moore Foundation

The Mason Family Foundation

The Masonic Charitable Foundation

The Ronald Hepworth

Discretionary Will Trust

The Sir James Knott Trust

The Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers

The Zochonis Charitable Trust

Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council

thank you

henshaws

beyond expectations

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