# E-Newsletter - October 2021

## Information and Support events

We continue with our series of free-to-attend webinars for the autumn. The recordings of previous webinars and information evenings can be found on our website (<https://retinauk.org.uk/information-support/recordings/>) or on our Podcast channel (<https://anchor.fm/retina-uk>) (audio only).

### Webinar: Michael Gilhooley, Optogenetics

Wednesday 27 October, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Michael Gilhooley is a clinical lecturer in the department of Genetics, Institute of Ophthalmology University College London and Moorfields Eye Hospital. His research interests include the development of novel therapies for inherited retinal degenerations (optogenetics) and inherited optic neuropathies.

This session will introduce the technique of optogenetics and its potential for development into a treatment for IRDs. Optogenetics is the process of expressing light sensitive proteins in cells, such as the surviving cells in the retina, to allow them to react to light independently. It has recently been used for the first time to return some vision to a patient with IRD in Paris as reported in the BBC News (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-57226572>).

Find out more and register for the event (<https://retinauk.org.uk/information-support/retina-uk-events/webinar-michael-gilhooley/>).

## The London Marathon is back!

Whether you’re after a PB or need to dust off your trainers, get on to the start line with Team Retina UK. You’ll take in the cheers of the crowd as you take on the challenge of a life time. And, with every step, you’ll support people affected by inherited sight loss and make pioneering research possible.

We’ll be here to help you all the way to the finish, and with our post-race reception you’ll get support after the race as well. Find out how to join us on 2 October for the 2022 TCS London Marathon (<http://www.RetinaUK.org.uk/londonmarathon>).

Don’t want to wait to October? Join Team Retina UK for the Brighton Marathon (<https://retinauk.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising-overview/take-part-in-an-event/run-for-retina-uk/half-marathons-and-marathons/brighton-marathon/>) on 10 April or the Edinburgh Marathon (<https://retinauk.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising-overview/take-part-in-an-event/run-for-retina-uk/half-marathons-and-marathons/edinburgh-marathon/>) on 29 May.

## Look Forward

We are currently working on the next edition of our newsletter, Look Forward, which should arrive with you by

Friday 19 November.

If you would like to receive Look Forward in a different format, or perhaps in more than one format (e.g. audio and print), just let us know. You can complete the form on our website: [www.RetinaUK.org.uk/look-forward](http://www.RetinaUK.org.uk/look-forward) or give us a call on 01280 821334.

## Christmas raffle 2021

In addition to a range of cash prizes, you could win this fantastic luxury hamper if you enter Retina UK's Christmas raffle. Find out more and request your tickets here: [www.RetinaUK.org.uk/raffle](http://www.RetinaUK.org.uk/raffle).

Call our Helpline 0300 111 4000 or email [helpline@RetinaUK.org.uk](mailto:helpline@RetinaUK.org.uk)

Monday to Friday 9.30am - 9.30pm