

Winter 2012

Welcome to the Notts Branch Bulletin. We hope you enjoy reading about the latest fund raising efforts by branch members and supporters and don't forget if you are organising an event and would like to publicise it in the next Bulletin please contact the Branch Chairman or Secretary.

### Nottingham Trent University Student Union "adopts" MND

We have recently had some great news – Nottingham Trent University Students Union have chosen the Notts Branch of the MND Association as one of the three charities that they will support this year. This means that at the end of the year, we will receive a share of the money raised by Nottingham Trent students during their various 'RAG' activities taking place during the year.

This honour comes after a number of us spent three days manning a stand at the Union's Freshers' Fair, in an effort to raise awareness of MND and encourage the students to vote for us in the Charity election. It was a tiring, but highly enjoyable, exercise where we gave out hundreds of MND leaflets and spoke to numerous students. Judging by the result, it was also clearly very successful! Many thanks to everyone concerned – and good luck to the students with their fundraising!



### Happy Birthday "Second Thursday"

None of the 26 people present at our October meeting, could believe it when a cake came out with one candle on it. Was it really 12 months since the group first met in the wake of a bomb scare on Mapperley Top?

The meeting had the usual mix of professional input from Carol Gent, the MND Care Centre Co-ordinator at the QMC and lots of lively exchanges between those folk who the group is all about, ie those people who are actually living with MND and their valiant carers.

Jenny Elston reported on her visit to the National AGM, she cautiously spoke of some interesting developments in the research field, particularly relating to lung function and ventilation issues.

Neil Penson, the recently appointed Volunteer Development Co-ordinator, (VDC), came up from our National Office and spoke about the need for branches to explore all avenues to promote awareness in their areas. He was delighted to hear of the success that Notts had achieved in this area and complemented all concerned on their efforts.

As our meeting room wasn't going to be available on the second Thursday in December, it was agreed we would meet on the first Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Once again 4pm came around too soon and with the caretaker hovering, the meeting ended and reluctantly, people made their way home after another heart warming meeting.

If anyone requires further information about "Second Thursday" please do not hesitate to contact Godfrey Kent.

### MND Association Visitors

Association Visitors (AVs) are volunteers who are trained by the MND Association. They offer free and confidential emotional support and information to people who are affected by MND. We have three volunteers in Nottingham, Jenny, Martin and Denis. AVs try to provide the type of support that a family affected by MND require, this might be a weekly visit or a monthly telephone call. If you would like meet an AV or chat to one over the telephone please contact Jane Connell our Regional Advisor on: 01636 642814 or [jane.connell@mndassociation.org](mailto:jane.connell@mndassociation.org)

### Kilimanjaro

Robin Combellack and Ashley Smith have completed their Kilimanjaro challenge. To see their amazing pictures and the full story, visit our local branch website: [www.mndanotts.org](http://www.mndanotts.org)



If you do not wish to receive any further correspondence from the local branch of the MND Association, please let a member of the committee know. We never lose hope. We strive to find a cure for MND and to support everyone affected by this devastating disease.

Motor Neurone Disease Association - Registered Charity No: 294354

## Treasurer's Report

The three months since the last Bulletin have been an absolutely amazing period for fundraising, with an incredible **£25,000** coming to the Branch! This record-breaking achievement is primarily due to three big and very successful events organized by some exceptionally kind and enthusiastic supporters.

Firstly, Robin Combellack and Ashley Smith have successfully completed their climb of Kilimanjaro, and have so far raised just over **£14,400**. Secondly, money raised at the Eric Gibson Golf Day held back in June continues to come in and currently totals **£7,550**. Thirdly, friends and relatives of Alan Young recently organized a Dinner dance that raised **£4,400**. In addition to these we have also received **£750** from the Vale of Belvoir Rotary Club, **£200** from Burton Joyce U3A, and further individual donations totalling **£275**.

So, quite an amazing three months. Can I say a huge "thank you" to everyone concerned with all these fundraising activities – your efforts are really appreciated and will make a huge difference to our ability to help local people with MND as well as enabling us to make a contribution towards research into this terrible disease.

Our recent contributions towards patient care include a grant of £400 towards a mobility scooter and two grants totalling £835 towards the costs of installing stair-lifts.

The **49 Club** was won by Harry Thompson in August, Coral Mutter in September and Simon Fotheringham in October. Congratulations to you all! We still have a few spare numbers available, so please contact the Treasurer if you would like to join.

Roger Spells (Treasurer)

## MNDA Christmas cards

Jenny Elston (our Branch contact) will have Christmas cards for sale at the December Second Thursday meeting. Our branch receives 20% of the local sales so it is a great way to raise some money for the local branch. Our MNDA charity cards are also available in the Charity card shop, see details below.



### Dates for your diary

5 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	Support Meeting	The Well, Hospital Road, Retford DN22 7BD At: 2pm
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	Christmas Quiz	Embankment Club – Trent Bridge At: 7:30pm
10 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
14 <sup>th</sup> February 2013	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2013	RACE NIGHT	Julian Cahn Pavilion in West Bridgford At: 7pm



The Department of Health recently wrote to us recommending that individuals with an underlying health condition like MND should consider having the seasonal flu vaccination.

Contact your GP Surgery for more information.

### Branch Contacts

Branch Chair	Mike Cole	Tel: 07775 613 114	e-mail: mike.cole@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Branch Vice Chair	Mike Foord-Divers	Tel: 0771 289 2611	e-mail: mfd00@hotmail.com
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Branch Treasurer	Roger Spells	Tel: 0115 923 2709	e-mail: roger_spells@btopenworld.com
Branch Contact	Jenny Elston	Tel: 07505 023 117	e-mail: elston.jenny@btinternet.com
Second Thursday Coordinator	Godfrey Kent	Tel: 0115 937 3318	e-mail: godfreykent19@gmail.com

### MND Association Contacts

National Office		Tel: 01604 250505	e-mail: enquiries@mndassociation.org
MND Connect		Tel: 08457 626262	e-mail: mndconnect@mndassociation.org
MND Association national website			www.mndassociation.org