

Summer 2013 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.

### Race Night 2013



At the end of February, the Branch committee organized a film Race Night at the Sir Julien Cahn Pavilion in West Bridgford. This was the third time we have held this event and it was the most successful yet. Over 120 "punters" attended and despite a very nerve-wracking start (*due to the late arrival of the*

*projectionist and the films!*), a great time was had by all. The betting produced its usual mix of winners and losers and the baked potato supper was as tasty as ever. We were even treated to a spontaneous vocal performance from our Master of Ceremonies, Simon Fotheringham!

This year we were supported by a number of very generous sponsors – so many that we had more sponsors than races! - which really helped increase the overall amount of money raised on the night to nearly **£2,000**. So, a great night and a great contribution to our funds. Many thanks to everyone who helped organize the event and to all our supporters who gave so generously. Here's looking forward to the next one!



### Annual General Meeting

Nottingham's 33rd AGM was held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at The Beeches hotel in West Bridgford. It was a very well attended event. Roger Spells (Treasurer) reported on the amazing donations that the branch has received over the past year. Mike Cole (Chairman) thanked everyone for their time, enthusiasm and generosity all which help make the Nottinghamshire branch thrive. Mike also mentioned that the branch is planning to hold a relaxed film afternoon in October at the Broadway cinema (more details will follow). We were proud to be able to present Juliet Colt (Respiratory nurse specialist) with a cough assist machine to be used to help people with weak breathing muscles in the MND clinic.



After the 'formal' proceedings of the AGM our guest speaker, Mark Todd, Chairman of the MND board of trustees gave an interesting presentation and answered questions. The enjoyable evening continued with a buffet and socialising.

### The Bandwagon Rolls On

There seems no stopping the "Second Thursday" bandwagon. At our most recent meeting we had 31 people including 14 people living with MND. This is a tribute to all those who play their part in this success story.

We split into two groups, carers and those who had MND and discussed the different issues that related to each of those situations. The carers cited the difficulty and delays of accessing statutory support services. Those with MND spoke about coming to terms with not being able to do things that were taken for granted previously and coping with the resultant frustration.

Everyone seemed prepared to share something of their feelings and their own personal journey with MND. Indeed, so enthusiastic was the discussion, that closing time came upon us before anyone realised the time, a sign of yet another satisfying get together.

Five people attended for the first time and were given the warmest of welcomes. So if anyone reading this is debating whether to come to the group, I would say to them that we're here for you. Indeed, I can't think of anyone who came for the first time and didn't return, so take a deep breath and join us at "Second Thursday", you won't regret it.

### Summer Ball

'The Broad Appeal' is holding their second annual ball on the 20<sup>th</sup> July at The Staunton Arms. See website for more details. <http://www.stauntonarms.co.uk/events.shtml>  
It promises to be a fantastic night for all.

### Care centre visit

Sally Light the Chief exec and Karen Pearce Head of care at MND Association visited the care centre on the 17<sup>th</sup> April at the QMC and met with staff, patients and their families.

Sally thanked the care centre for all their hard work.



## Treasurer's Report

The last three months have again been a fantastic period for donations, with over £6,500 coming to the Branch from a variety of kind and enthusiastic fundraisers!

Money continued to come in from three hugely successful events in 2012 - a further £2,000 from the Eric Gibson Golf Day, £750 from Robin Combella and Ashley Smith's Kilimanjaro climb and £700 from Andrew Thompson's moustache growing sponsorship. The Kilimanjaro total has now reached £15,900 whilst the Eric Gibson total is now over £12,000 and Andrew Thompson's is over £2,600.

In addition, Susan Bunting, who is this year's Lady Captain at Mapperley Golf Club, has already raised over £1,200 for MNDA this year and Maurice Tomlinson has raised over £540 so far from his golf club, with much more to come. We have also had a very generous donation of £1,000 from the Vale of Belvoir Rotary Club. Finally, as you will read elsewhere, the Branch committee organized a very successful Race Night at the end of February which made a profit of £2,000.

So, yet another amazing period for fund raising. 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.

I am pleased to say that as a result of all this fundraising, we have been able to purchase a much needed "Cough Assist" machine to be used at the QMC Care Centre. This was presented to Juliet Colt, the Specialist Respiratory Nurse at the Care Centre at our recent AGM.

The 49 Club was won by Alan Whiteley in February, John Bower in March and Alan Whiteley again in April! Congratulations to you all. We have welcomed several new members to the club recently, but we still have a few spare numbers available, so please contact the Treasurer if you would like to join.

Roger Spells (*Treasurer*)

### **MNDA Raffle**

There is still time to buy tickets for the MNDA Raffle. Please contact Jenny Elston (Branch Contact) for more information. Remember that all money and ticket stubs must be returned by 21<sup>st</sup> June

#### Dates for your diary

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5 <sup>th</sup> June	Support Meeting	The Well, Hospital Road, Retford, DN22 7BD 2-4 pm
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Support Meeting	The Well, Hospital Road, Retford, DN22 7BD 2-4 pm
13 <sup>th</sup> June	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
11 <sup>th</sup> July	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
8 <sup>th</sup> August	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club At 2:15pm
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Support Meeting	The Well, Hospital Road, Retford, DN22 7BD 2-4 pm

### **Par 3 Charity golf day**

Maurice Tomlinson (see picture below) got in touch to let us know about the Chairman's charity golf day which was held on 30<sup>th</sup> April at Ramsdale Park golf centre. He reported that the weather was good & they managed to raise over £500 towards their charity fund, which this year is the MND Association. Thank you to everyone involved.



*Pictured (left to right)  
Dennis Hyam, Terry Nichol, Irene Mitchell, Pat Linnington, Maurice Tomlinson, Richard Hone, David Costin, Elaine Mitchell, John White & Ron Coles*

## Charity dinner dance and auction

To raise funds for the **Motor Neurone Disease Association** in partnership with **Stewart Sparling**

- **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013**
- **Marriott Hotel, Leicester**

Join us for a fun-filled evening to raise funds for the MNDA. The evening includes a superb **four-course meal**, charity auction, raffle and **amazing entertainment** provided by Cole Page, Justin Orange and Wayne Allen.

A fabulous range of auction and raffle prizes already announced, including:

- **Four tickets to watch England at Wembley, with full hospitality**
- **Long weekend for 4 at Stapleford Park, inc golf & spa treatments**
- **Four tickets to Lord's Cricket, with full hospitality**
- **A brand new Apple iPad ...with more to follow**

To book tickets or find out more, phone  
**Stewart Sparling on 07989 141156** or email  
**on [motoneuronecharity@gmail.com](mailto:motoneuronecharity@gmail.com)**



*"Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance."*

### **Branch Contacts**

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