

Winter
2019

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.

Carole Newby – Charity Event Success

Carole Newby organised a hugely successful charity event in August at the Farnsfield Cricket Club, in memory of her late husband, Mark. Her band, Harbour Moon, played free of charge, having travelled from all over from the Wirral/Manchester area on a very rainy Friday with huge traffic jams. There was also a surprise guest appearance from a good friend, Carlo Sax, who kept the evening rocking till well past midnight.



Mark's daughter and her husband, Sarah and Shaun Wheatcroft helped to organise the event and Carole would also like to thank Nick Hoad the Farnsfield Cricket Club steward, for donating the food and raffle tickets, and all

the many local businesses and friends for supporting the event with tickets, posters and raffle prizes.

The event raised £1450 in total, of which £1210 has been donated to the Nottinghamshire Branch. Many thanks to Carole and all her friends for supporting us in this way.

New Committee Members Needed

As a lot of readers will know, we have a very active and friendly branch committee serving the whole of Nottinghamshire and with committee members from various parts of the county. However, we are a relatively small committee with currently just a few members and have just lost our very long-serving secretary who many of you will know from the MND Clinic, Nina Squires.

Therefore we are looking for new committee members, but in particular, we are looking for anybody who would like to take on the role of branch secretary. We only meet every couple of months and nearly all meetings are held in Nottingham and are finished by 8.30pm. If you think you might be interested, or would like further details, please ring Mike on 07775613114.

Film-show for 40th

Many of you will have read or heard about the various events held to commemorate the founding of the national MND Association in Nottinghamshire 40 years ago. In fact, we still have a founding member serving on our committee (Jenny Elston) and therefore we decided to commemorate our fantastic association with a film-show at the Broadway cinema on 3rd November. We've done this

before for other anniversaries so had run out of films with an MND connection and this time just decided to have a "feel-good" film and chose "The Greatest Showman" starring Hugh Jackman and with some lovely songs. It's a great film and everybody who attended said how much they liked it, and then afterwards, thanks to our "honorary" committee member Sharon King and her daughter Freya, we ran a raffle and raised just over £75 towards the cost of the film-show. Now all we want is to hope that we won't be needed for a 50th anniversary commemoration.

Dates for your diary – See website calendar for more details

5 th Dec	'Second Thursday' Christmas Party	The Mapperley Plains Social Club - 2:15pm
18 th Dec	North Notts Support Group	The Well, DN22 7BD - 2 – 4pm
9 th Jan	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club - 2:15pm
15 th Jan	North Notts Support Group	The Well, DN22 7BD - 2 – 4pm
28 th Jan	Legacy Event	Nottinghamshire County Council – Contact Sharon for more details on: sharon.king@mndassociation.org
13 th Feb	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club - 2:15pm
19 th Feb	North Notts Support Group	The Well, DN22 7BD - 2 – 4pm
12 th Mar	'Second Thursday'	The Mapperley Plains Social Club - 2:15pm
18 th Mar	North Notts Support Group	The Well, DN22 7BD - 2 – 4pm

An Invitation to meet our Researchers – Tuesday 28th January 2020 - Nottinghamshire County Council.

The gifts generous supporters leave the MND Association in their Wills play a significant role in advancing our understanding of MND. Gifts in Wills help provide vital funding for MND research, enabling researchers to build on their findings and helping to bring forward the day when new treatments and, ultimately, a cure is found.

Dr Nick Cole will be joined by local Researchers Professor Rob Layfield & Dr Daniel Scott to talk about their latest work, and Erica Littleworth will be speaking about local care for people with MND. There will also be a chance to take part in a virtual laboratory tour to see scientists at work.

If you're interested in hearing more about leaving a gift in your Will and would like to meet our Researchers then book your place today. For more information please email sharon.king@mndassociation.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.



Aging Rockers in evidence at "Second Thursday"

At November's "Second Thursday", no one will forget the floods caused by the worst weather we have experienced in donkeys' years. It seemed as if the centre of the deep depression was lying over the Sports and Social Club in Mapperley and threatened to play havoc with our programme. Especially as we had engaged Trevor Leeson, formally of the 60's group The Merseybeats, to provide some musical entertainment for the group.



We had been looking forward to a full house but we feared that the weather had understandably caused many to stay at home. However, "Second Thursday" members are made of sterner stuff than this and we soon had almost 40 people present, including 14 people living with MND, as the artist commenced his programme with a faultless rendition of Apache. This was followed by many familiar tunes including, Wonderful Land and It's Only Make Believe.

The Chairman of Notts County Council, Kevin Rostance was in the audience and he was invited to say a few words. We were all delighted that his chosen charity of the year is Notts MNDA and he was happy to report that his fundraising events had already topped £8,000. This was greeted by enthusiastic applause which turned

into wild rapture when the Chairman of the Council broke out in song and started a lively rendition of the Neil Diamond hit Sweet Caroline! However, he didn't want to grab all the glory for himself and continued by singing duets with both Trevor Leeson and also



Godfrey Kent. Alas, it is feared that Godfrey should think carefully before giving up the day job and launching a career as a vocalist. A few more favourite songs and then Trevor did the big finish with the John Miles classic song Music is My First Love .

The session concluded with a mix and mingle time when we all reflected on what was a really first-class afternoon.

Next month, we meet on Thursday 5th December and not the usual second Thursday of the month, as the hall is not available. We will have our Christmas party, so please bring along some snacks or picky bits for the buffet and bone up ready for Godfrey's Legendry Christmas Quiz which it is understood has 3 new questions this year. WOW!

North Notts Support Group – Venue Change

The Retford Library is closing for refurbishment from 7th Dec. For this reason, the meeting will now be at The Well, Hospital Rd, Retford DN22 7BD. This is likely to be until April, but we will let everyone know when it changes back.

We are also collecting prizes for a tombola stall we are having at the Retford Charter Day next May.

Note: Missing Christmas card order - Jenny has a Christmas card order without a name on the form. She would appreciate if that person can contact her on 01623 871183. The order was made in September at "Second Thursday".

Treasurer's Report

In the last three months we have received a number of donations, totalling nearly £2,000, including £1,210 from Carole Newby (more about this elsewhere in the bulletin), £633 from the Patient Participation Group at the Keyworth Medical Practice and £140 from Alma Wood who made and sold knitted items. We also received £915 from in-memoriam donations. Thank you all so much - your efforts are really appreciated and make a huge difference to our ability to help local people with MND.

As far as expenditure on patient care is concerned, there has been quite an increase in grant applications to us recently but I am pleased to say that we have been able to make 15 grants in the last 3 months, totalling nearly £7,000. These have included stairlifts, riser/recliner chairs, Bio Bidets, holiday grants, and carer's grants. If anybody living with MND has a requirement for any sort of financial support from the Branch, then could they please contact me or our MND Regional Care Development Advisor, Kim Iliffe (kim.iliffe@mndassociation.org). We are always open to any reasonable request for support.

The 59 Club was won by Simon Fotheringham in August and Dr Alan Whitely in September, but there was no winner in October, so the prize is carried over to November. Congratulations to you all. There are still a few spare numbers, so if anyone would like to participate – just £4 per month! – please let me know.

Roger Spells (Treasurer)

Branch Contacts

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MND Association Contacts

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