

Newsletter

Happy New Year to all our friends and supporters.

Second half of 2006:

In October, Pam Greener gave us an entertaining and detailed talk on the events of 1066. She brought this period of time to life, even giving various members of the audience an identity. We would all have benefited from having enthusiastic teachers like this when we were at school.

The Christmas Social was very well attended, we even ran out of chairs. The choir was as usual in very good voice and we had a chance to join in. We managed to raise £108.50 during the evening from the raffle and bring and buy table.



At the end of September Ann was invited to the Annual Dinner and Dance of The Cavan Association. She had a really good evening and was amazed to be given a cheque for £4,000.00, a fantastic result from their year's fundraising.

Thanks to a year's very successful fundraising by the Branch and this generous donation we are well able to help people in our area living with MND. For example we have enabled people to have stair lifts installed, helped with travelling costs, wheel-chair expenses and will be paying towards a holiday later in this year.



FIGHTING MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

Another surprise for us was discovering that our Branch had won an OSCAR. We had evidently been nominated in the Splendid Support category and been Commended. We have now received our Certificate and Oscar.



Fundraising:

Barn Dance

Our second Barn Dance in October was even better than the first. This time we organised the buffet ourselves and, once we had sorted out a 'plating-up' system in the small kitchen, it all worked well. Everyone agreed that it was a very enjoyable evening and this time we raised over £800.00. Needless to say we are doing it all again. Make a note in your diaries on Friday 30th March. Numbers will again be limited and admission by ticket only. These will be on sale very soon.

Street Collections

Once again we have arranged three collections. The Awareness Week one in Luton Arndale Centre will be at the start of Awareness Week on 16th June. The Leighton Buzzard one is on 30th June and Dunstable 11th August. When Andy asks for tin holders please try to be available. We know it can be a daunting experience but every penny in a tin helps someone.

Awareness Week Walk

Steven Halton has once again had his arm-twisted and will be leading us on our walk on 23rd June. He has been asked to find somewhere beautiful, interesting and fairly flat. We await hearing where this will be later in the year. Please make another note in your new diary and join the walk.

Regional Care Advisor

Our new RCA, Moira Mosley, has attended several meetings and seems to have settled in to her new role very well.

Volunteer Development Co-ordinator

Congratulations to our VDC Ruth Clark who was married in November last year. We now should address her as Ruth Barton.

Vacancy

We are pleased to say that we do have a prospective new Treasurer. He is Tonderai Sekiwa who is currently at Luton University studying Accountancy.

Web Site

Apologies to anyone visiting our site, you will notice that it has not been updated for some time. We have lost our previous Webmaster and although updating software has been purchased we are having problems with installation. The computer will shortly be moving house and as soon as that takes place the problem will be sorted and the web site updated.

Dates for your 2007 Diary

All meetings are held in the Day Room at The Pasque Hospice

Monday 5 th February, 8:00pm	On the Bench with Pete Straker
Monday 2 nd April, 7:30pm	AGM, Guest speaker, Kate Gooding National Office help line
Monday 4 th June, 8:00pm	Claire Robinson, ZSL. History and future of Whipsnade Zoo
Saturday 4 th August, 7:00pm	Summer Barbeque at 25 Lansdowne Road, Luton.
Monday 1 st October, 8:00pm	Margaret Musgrove. Hospice at Home Volunteers
Monday 3 rd December, 7:30pm	Christmas Social with Carols sung by St. Augustine's Choir.

Do come and join our meetings and feel free to bring your friends.

Dates and details of events can be found on our web site:

www.mndlutonandsbeds.org

Can We Do Anything To Help ?

The branch exists to provide help and support to people living with MND and their carers in the Luton and South Beds area.

MND head office can provide a wide range of loan equipment such as raising armchairs and suction machines, but often more specific items are required, that is where the local branch can help. We arrange the supply of small items of equipment or help with the funding of large items.

Within the branch we have three volunteer visitors who will come along to discuss your specific needs and recommend the help that we can provide or other organisations that can be useful.

Useful Contacts

Local Branch Contact	Betty Jackson 01582 613052
Regional Care Advisor	Moira Mosley 0845 3751854
Local Volunteer Visitors	Ray Anness 01582 615804 Betty Jackson 01582 613052 Ann Murphy
MDN Association Helpline	08457 626262

Motor Neurone Disease Association
PO Box 246, Northampton, NN1 2PR. Tel 01604 250505
Email : enquiries@mndassociation.org
Website : www.mndassociation.org
Registered Charity No 294354