

Northamptonshire Branch

March 2017



**Welcome to the Spring issue of
our branch newsletter**



A message from CEO, Sally Light

I'd like to start by saying a huge thank you to those branches and groups that have supported the CEO appeal so far. As I meet volunteers, read Thumb Print and The News I am always amazed by the ways you raise much needed funds for the Association. I am also so proud of the way you put that funding to such great use in helping people living with MND, their families and carers in your local communities.

As you may already be aware we have now launched our 2017-21 strategy – *'Going further together – towards a world free from MND'*. Thank you to all of you who got involved in the consultations over the last 18 months that contributed to its development. The strategy is our guide and route map for what our Association will do over the next five years. It is also the document by which we will hold ourselves to account; checking back to ensure we have achieved what we set out to do.

Next month marks the launch of STRONG, our new volunteer recruitment campaign highlighting the short term volunteering opportunities which we offer.

Finally, I hope to visit as many branches and groups as possible during 2017 so if you have any support meetings, committee meetings or events that you'd like me to attend please let the [volunteering team](#) know.

As always, my heartfelt thanks for all you do to support people living with MND and their families.

Sally Light

Chief Executive



February sees the start of our bold new volunteer recruitment programme. We normally take quite a traditional approach to recruiting volunteers, but STRONG will see us doing something a little different to attract people to the organisation. We know that when asking someone to dedicate their valuable time to volunteering, we are not just competing with other volunteering opportunities and other charities, but we are competing with all other ways people may choose to use their time: watching TV, going to the gym, looking after grandchildren etc.

We know that we struggle in particular to attract people with no or little knowledge of MND, and young people. We hope that STRONG will change that. But reaching out to different audiences is only part of our STRONG strategy. We also need to tailor the volunteering experience to meet different people's expectations, motivations and lifestyles.

Whether these new recruits stay with us as long-standing members of branches and groups, or contribute on a more ad-hoc basis, we are confident that their involvement will boost our local and national activities, and help spread the word about MND and the Association. **Keep an eye out for the launch of STRONG next month.**

Northants Branch Christmas Buffet Lunch

A very successful Christmas Lunch was held on Sunday December 11th 2016. The event was very well supported and all enjoyed good food, excellent company and entertainment from "Open Stage". We would like to thank all who helped to make the afternoon special and to all who attended. We were especially pleased to welcome the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Gareth Eales and Deputy Mayoress, Councillor Terrie Eales, who showed great interest in learning more about the branch and MND.



Our grateful thanks go to Carol and Helen for the wonderful buffet and to Barclays from where Helen had secured a sponsorship for the food. The raffle organised by Jackie and Dave raised £212. Walter Loweth and Shirley Botterill received their Long Service Awards 10 and 5 years respectively.

(Apologies:

Due to technical difficulties, we are unable to include photos taken at the event. Ed.)

Cheque Presentation

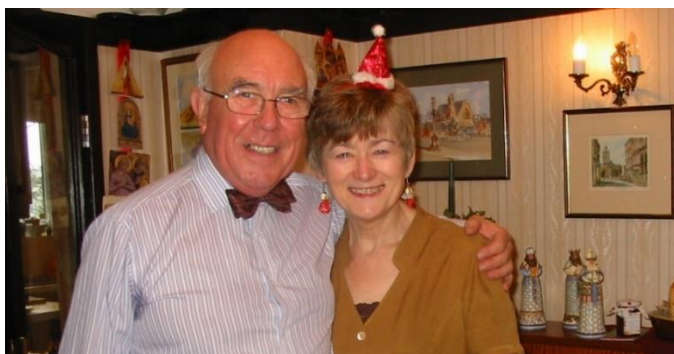


At our branch open meeting on February 11th David Solomon, who has MND, received a cheque for £5000 from Rachel Salaman, a friend and a former member of Wootton Sports and Social Club.

Wootton Sports and Social Club closed recently, and their funds were divided equally between four charities, which is how the branch came to receive a cheque. Many thanks to them for this kind gesture.

FORTH COMING EVENTS

IN MEMORY OF ROGER SMITH



Some of you will remember Roger Smith, who was diagnosed with MND in August 2012, and who died on 4th March 2016.

He was a church organist for more than 50 years and music was an enormous part of his life. The last time he was able to play was at the wedding of some friends in September 2012.

A Memorial Concert in Roger's honour is to be held at St Mary's Church, Knox Road, Wellingborough NN8 1HJ on Saturday, 4th March 2017 at 3 pm. There will be a varied programme of organ, piano and choral music, with an interval for tea and cakes and a toast to Roger's memory at the end.

All are welcome: there will be a voluntary retiring collection and all funds raised will go to the Northampton branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Diana Smith

Annual General Meeting Our 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday April 9th 2017 2.30pm –5pm St Matthews Church Parish Centre 27a The Drive Northampton NN1 4RY Our guest speaker will be Pete Collins, Volunteer Fundraiser Derbyshire. All are welcome, come and join us and hear what happens in the branch, we end the afternoon with tea and cake.

Walk to D'feet Sponsored Walk

This year our sponsored walk will take place on Saturday May 13th 2017 as part of the annual Waendel Walk around Wellingborough and surrounding villages and country side. There will be more about this on our website. There are many walks to choose from, 5, 10, 15, 25 and 42 kilometres. We have chosen the 10 kilo (6 miles), if anyone would like to do more please get in touch with Kate on 01933 667616 branch line, 07786 686 177 mobile; or inchleyk@gmail.com email. There is a £5, registration fee which goes to Waendel Walk. We will meet at the Castle Theatre 10 Castle Way Wellingborough NN8 1XA to commence the walk at 10am, when you will be given a MND Walk to D'feet T shirt and directions of where to walk and meet back at the Castle after the walk. This is the first time we have done this so we hope it will be successful. Keep your eye on the website or contact Kate for sponsor forms and information.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Wednesday March 1st 12.00-2.00 Garden Centre, Wootton Northampton NN4 6HP
Drop-in lunch

Saturday March 4th 3pm St Mary's Church Knox Road Wellingborough
A concert of Organ Music and Singing. No charge but donations welcome .

Saturday March 11th 10am --- 3pm Obelisk Centre Obelisk Rise Northampton
Spring Fair and Dog Show. Many stalls, refreshments, fun marathon and much more

Saturday March 18th Collection at Morrisons Supermarket Kettering Road
Northampton 8.30am --- 2pm

Wednesday April 5th 12.00-2.00 Garden Centre, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6HP
Drop-in lunch

Friday April 7th 2017 7.30pm Musical Evening
Windmill Club Glassbrook Road Rushden NN10 9RP
Tickets £5. From Kate or pay on the door .A concert of popular songs from the cinema performed by Wollaston Singers, raffle and licensed bar . Do come along.

Sunday April 9th 2017 2.30pm -5pm Annual General Meeting .
St Matthews Church Parish Centre .27a The Drive Northampton NN1 4RY
Northants Branch MND Association AGM

Wednesday May 3rd 12.00-2.00 Garden Centre Wootton, Northampton NN4 6HP
Drop-in lunch

Saturday May 13th 2017 10am Walk to D'feet at the Waendel Walk

Wednesday June 7th 12.00-2.00 Garden Centre, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6HP
Drop-in lunch

Sunday June 11th 2017 Open Meeting 2.30pm 4.30pm
St Matthews Church Parish Centre All welcome

Friday June 16th 2017 7.30pm Concert
Masque Theatre Barton Seagrave Kettering Northants
A concert of popular music performed by Voices Aloud and the Seagrave Singers



SERVICES EXPLAINED

Motor Neurone Disease Association, PO Box 246, Northampton NN1 2PR

Telephone: 01604 250505

Membership – This is free to people living with MND and their carer. As a member of the Association you will receive a membership card, our regular magazine *Thumb Print*, full of information - the latest news in care and research, as well as features on how some families cope daily with MND. Automatic link to your nearest branch/group and opportunities to get involved at a local level. Invitations to the conferences and seminars we organise. Our *Annual Review/Impact Report* which outlines our progress made over the last financial year and our plans for the year to come. Full membership also entitles you to elect Association trustees and vote at the Annual General Meeting. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact MND Connect

MND Connect – 0808 8026262 - a helpline available Monday - Friday 9am -5pm, 7pm - 10.30pm (charged at local rate) and email service mndconnect@mndassociation.org. Provide advice on all aspects of MND. They can also post information about MND and support available

Regional Care Development Adviser (RCDA) Scott Maloney – 07501682095 scott.maloev@mndassociation.org – assisting with advice and support on care management and service development in your area.

Volunteering Development Co-ordinator (VDC) Neil Penson 01604 611686 neil.penson@mndassociation.org VDCs work with existing branches and groups to develop and build on good practice. This includes the recruitment and induction of branch officers. They are also involved in setting up new branches and groups in areas where there is little support for people with motor neurone disease.

Equipment Loan - a limited range of equipment is available where not obtainable from statutory services. Requires a written referral from the relevant health or social care professional

Financial Support - towards items not available from statutory services. Requires referral from relevant health or social care professional

Registered Office: Motor Neurone Disease Association
David Niven House, 10-15 Notre Dame Mews Northampton NN1 2BG
Registered charity number – 294354

Northamptonshire Local Branch

Open Meetings Local support from people in the area who are familiar with the affects of MND. The branch holds bi-monthly meetings for anyone with, or interested in, MND at St Matthews Church Parish Centre. (Contact details on next page).

Association Visitors (AVs) are volunteers who offer advice and support to anyone affected by MND, either face to face, via telephone or email. Please contact your RCDA on the number above for more information.

Social Gatherings are occasional opportunities for people affected by MND to come together informally in a safe, friendly environment. Transport can be arranged if necessary.

Lunchtime Support Group is another opportunity to meet informally to share experiences.

It is usually held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at the restaurant in the Garden Centre, (next to Waitrose) Newport Pagnell Road, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6HP. There is no need to book – just come along but, if possible, please arrive by 11.45. Free for anyone with MND and their carer.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BRANCH CONTACTS

Patron: Dr John Smith

Chair:	Kate Inchley	01933 667616 inchleyk@gmail.com
Vice Chair:	Robert Nixon	01933 229602 robchnixon@talktalk.net
Secretary:	Gerry Skipper-Byer	01536 723304 07861 610323 gedda1064@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Colin Byer	07779 225760 colin.byer@yahoo.co.uk
Branch Contact:	Kate Inchley	01933 667616 inchleyk@gmail.com
Newsletter:	Chris Hull	chull1@waitrose.com
Website:	Derrick Peasland	01604 454870 dellpea@ntlworld.com

Association Volunteers (AVs): Joan Randell, Angela West, Margaret Robinson and Annette Liddon

Committee Members: Kevin White, Derrick Peasland, Jackie Atkins, Dave Atkins, Maureen Sanders, Priscilla Davies, Ali Buttress and Sally Wilkins

Website: www.mndnorthants.org.uk
Email: enquiries@mndnorthants.org.uk