

Northamptonshire Branch

Spring 2022



**Welcome to the Spring edition of
our local branch newsletter**

WELCOME

Welcome to the Spring edition of the newsletter. Thank you to anyone who has provided an article. Please contact me if you have anything which you would like to be included in the next newsletter, or any suggestions for things you would like to see on the future. I wish everyone a happy 2022.

Thank you to Kate, Jackie and Dave for all that you have done for the association for so many years.

Margaret Waller

Chairperson Report

Hello Everyone,

Spring 2022 had arrived and we are still limited by some Covid 19 restrictions .

We can meet face to face at support meetings provided everyone is comfortable, and feels confident to do that. We have held 2 Drop in lunches since our last newsletter and all who came were pleased to meet up again Our grateful thanks of course to Dobbies Garden Centre and staff for making us feel so welcome and work so hard to support us. The Drop –in’s as you know are on the first Wednesday of every month the next one being

Wednesday March 2nd 11.45am --- 2pm. All are welcome and it would be great to see you there .

Northants Branch Annual General Meeting to be held in person on:-

Sunday April 3rd 2pm – 4.30pm at

St Matthews Church Parish Centre

27a The Drive Northampton NN1 4RY

Speaker: Anne Anderson, Area Support Coordinator Central Midlands

Tea and Cakes will be provided.

All welcome please come and support us we need you .

Kate Inchley

Northants Branch Chairperson

I am standing down as Chairperson at our forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday April 3rd, 2022

This position has been advertised with no success so far. Should we not be able to fill this vacancy, there is a possibility that we would not be able to function as a branch and therefore we would become a group.

A group functions mainly in the same way, but with less bureaucracy: there would be no formal committee meetings or Annual General Meeting.

We would still be focusing on fundraising, campaigning, and supporting people living with MND and their families and providing equipment etc., also holding our Drop –in lunch support meetings with the invaluable help of our Association Visitors .

Should you have any objections to this move or feel motivated to come forward in any capacity to support us please contact:-

Anne Anderson Area Support Coordinator Anne.anderson@mndassociation.org
or Kate Inchley Chair inchleyk@gmail.com tele. no 07786 686177

Thank you

Kate Inchley

Committee News

In April 1997, Dave and myself went to our first AGM, having just joined the local MNDA. After all the formalities, we asked Harris Lees, the then chairman, what it involved being a committee member. What started was a 25 year journey which we both have thoroughly enjoyed. We soon slipped into the role of attending money raising events, from bucket collections, table top sales, tombolas, standing in Abington Street under a gazebo weighted down because of strong winds, helping National office with a chocolate fountain to talking to a mechanical dog at a dog show at Billing Aquadrome. In fact, we attended any event where we could raise money.

I took on producing the newsletter for 9 years, I became Vice Chair then Chair. Dave took on running the raffle at the open meetings, which were always popular and a good money raiser. We have made so many memories, and many friends and we wouldn't change anything. We may have stepped down from the committee but will still be involved whenever we can.

Jackie and Dave Atkins

DONATION



Kate and Peter were invited to Alphatec to receive a cheque from Simon Davies Director for £200, raised by a prize draw to celebrate 25years of the company Alphatec. We were made very welcome by Simon and Brian and Northants Branch are very grateful for this donation.

Kate Inchley

Press Release 24th February 2022

Win-Win - customer loyalty prize draw results in donation to charity.

To celebrate 25-years in business, Alphatec Software organised a customer loyalty prize draw. For every software user who entered, £1 was pledged to charity which led to a £200 donation to The MND Association.

Established in 1996, Alphatec is a SaaS software supplier providing software to many industry sectors with applications to manage insurance claims, complaints, health & safety incidents, legal cases, risk management, time recording, and work activity scheduling.

Alphatec's customer reach is throughout the UK, Europe, USA, Australia, and New Zealand, and customer retention rates are high at 96%. Alphatec's customers tell us they remain loyal because the software is easy to use, customer support is excellent, there are regular updates, and the products provide tangible business solutions.

Simon Davies, Alphatec's Sales Director said,

“We work hard to deliver a superior product and service and realise that our long-term success would not be possible without our customers. We wanted to celebrate our special milestone celebrations with a thank you to them for their loyalty.

We also wanted to link the prize draw to a charitable donation and having had personal experience as my father contracted Motor Neurone Disease, it was important to me that we supported the MND Association, to acknowledge the valuable work they do.”

ROGER SMITH MEMORIAL RECITAL

HELD AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH
ON SATURDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2022



What a fantastic result! The recital held in Roger Smith's memory was very well attended, with nearly 90 people coming to listen to the five soloists who played for the occasion. Each organist played so well, some with exciting, foot-tapping pieces, whilst others gave us slower, more peaceful music. My thanks to each of them.

Lee Dunleavy played "Passacaglia, Op. 80" by Oskar Merikanto.

Colin Ashworth played "Chanson No. 1" from "Three Chansons" by Humphrey Clucas and "Praeludium in G minor" by Dietrich Buxtehude.

Tony Edwards gave us "Tifa's Theme" by Nobuo Uematsu, together with "Jubilate Deo" by Anthony Foster.

"Andante from Organ Sonata No. 4 in D minor" by Felix-Alexandre Guilmant was performed by Stephen Taylor, who also played "Le Banquet Celeste" by Olivier Messiaen.

The final pieces were "Sicilienne" by Maria Theresa von Paradis and "Festive March" by Henry Smart and these were played by Jonathan Kingston.

The retiring collection after the recital amounted to £470, which was split between St Mary's Church Music Fund and the Motor Neurone Disease Association. There was a raffle, with some very nice prizes.

The cake table put out wasn't big enough to hold all the cakes, jams and marmalades which had been donated by various people, so we had to put out another. There was a very wide variety of cakes – lemon drizzle, brownies (both with and without nuts), fruit cakes, a yoghurt cake, shortbread, refrigerator cake, jam tarts, fairy cakes (both lemon and chocolate), flapjacks, gingerbread, oatmeal parkin and last, but by no means least, gingerbread men. They weren't all bought on the day. but more were sold on Sunday and the remainder on Monday.

Altogether the money raised amounted to £1,116.05 – my very grateful thanks to everyone who took part, either with organizing the recital, helping set everything up on the day, making cakes, jams and marmalade and assisting with selling.

Diana Smith – 2nd March 2022

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 *Thumbprint*, full of information—the latest news in care and research as well as features on how some families cope daily with MND, an 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.

Service Development Manager (SDM): Scott Maloney 01604 800634

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

Francis Crick House, 6, Summerhouse Road, Moulton Park Industrial Estate, Northampton, NN3 6BJ

Telephone: 01604 250505

Registered charity number— 294354

Northamptonshire Local Branch

Open Meetings Local support from people in the area who are familiar with the effects of MND. The branch holds bi-monthly meetings for anyone with, or interested in, MND at St Matthew's 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 by email. Please contact your A.S.C. 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, arrive by 11:45. Free for anyone with MND and their carer.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BRANCH CONTACTS

Patron: Dr John Smith

Chair	Kate Inchley	01933 664 609 inchleyk@gmail.com
Vice Chair	Robert Nixon	01933 229602 robchnixon3@btinternet.com
Secretary		
Treasurer	Colin Byer	07779 225760 colin.byer@gmail.com
Branch Contact	Diana Smith	07756 864 614 mndnorthants.branch@gmail.com
Newsletter	Margaret Waller	07460 670655 margaretmwaller@hotmail.co.uk

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

Committee Members: Priscilla Davies, Sally Wilkins and Diana Smith

Website: www.mndnorthants.org.uk **email:** enquiries@mndnorthants.org