



Editors: Bill Perkins & Carol Hinwood

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER – 2020 ISSUE NO.63

Branch Meetings

We continued to have good attendance at our monthly meetings with a wide variety of speakers, the highlights were Matthew Sproston's entertaining talk and music on Victoria Wood, and the Afternoon of Games with Cream Tea.

We hope that 2020 will be just as entertaining and we look forward to our talk on 'Tax, Care & Toy Boys' presented by Ben Ashenton of Co-op Estate Planning.

Outings & Branch Holiday 2019

Another year of successful outings, starting with a coach trip to Worcester and an interesting visit to the Royal Worcester Museum and a cream tea.

On 7th October we departed for our annual holiday to Eastbourne. We were looked after very well at The Landsdowne Hotel. The weather was kind to us this year and we visited Brighton and other local places of interest.

November saw us on our second outing with a short tour of the Forest of Dean, a three course meal at the excellent Abbey Mill at Tintern and a singalong. Once again the Abbey Mill staff looked after us very well.

Many thanks to Gill for arranging the outings and to Christine for arranging the holiday.

Fundraising 2019

Members of the Committee and branch collected at the Co-op in Corsham raising £120, and at Morrison's supermarket in Chippenham raising nearly £400.

Generous donations totalling nearly £2,000 were received from various local Masonic Lodge charities, and over £1,000 was collected at the funeral of

former member Roy Harford. Further donations were received from Bartlett Tree Surgeons and E & S Shops.

We would like to thank all our supporters.

Holiday 2020

We had not planned to have a Branch holiday this year, but the committee are currently discussing the possibility of a holiday in early October. We will announce details as soon as we are able.

Christmas Party

We apologise that the date for the 2019 party had to be changed at short notice, and that some members were unable to attend. In spite of the weather, over 60 members and guests attended and we enjoyed a lovely evening. Christine presented some of the junior members of Athelstan Players who performed two dances from their recent pantomime. Our main entertainment was provided by the adult members of The Athelstan Players who encouraged us all to join in with the singing to get us into the Christmas mood.

Thanks to everyone who brought buffet food and raffle prizes.

News of Members & Supporters

We welcomed several new members in 2019.

We were very sad to lose John Veitch, Brian White and Roy Harford, all active members of our branch, also Derek Thomas, Thomas Skuse and Christopher Bartlett. We send our condolences to all their families.

We were very sorry to hear in April that our long-standing auditor, Peter Gosling had died after a short illness, he has been a great help to Nicola in keeping our accounts in order and before that to our previous treasurer, Betty. We will miss seeing him at our AGMs, Christmas parties and committee meals.

We wish a speedy recovery to Dr Nigel Pickering, who has had to stand down as our President recently, due to ill health. We are very grateful for his support over the past 23 years and will miss having him at our AGMs to chair the election of committee, but hope he will be well enough in future to join us again at our Christmas parties.

Dance for Parkinson's Sessions

Our Dance for Parkinson's sessions are currently on hold, as our lovely leader Debbie has been seriously ill for several months. We all wish Debbie a speedy recovery.

Neurology Specialist Nurse

Lindsay Breeson has now been appointed as our local neurology specialist nurse, based at Chippenham Hospital. To contact her, you either need a referral from your GP, or may phone her direct on 01249 456592

Parkinson's UK Local Adviser

Lucy Scott is available for general advice on Parkinson's on 0344 2253696

Malmesbury Branch 2020

Wishing you all a Happy & Healthy New Year.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our regular monthly meetings, your programme card for 2020 is enclosed.

If you require help with transport, please contact Bill. We are very grateful to Jackie Webb of Webb's Taxis who provides several of our members with transport to meetings.

Tea & Cake Rota

Please could we have some occasional volunteers to help lay out cups, serve tea and cake and wash up afterwards. Please see Gill at the AGM if you are able to help. If you are able to bring an occasional cake, that would be very welcome too.

Committee

Bill has agreed to continue as Chairman for 2020 to prevent the branch from becoming just a Support Group. We still need a new Vice Chairman for 2020 who is prepared to stand as Chairman in 2021, otherwise we will become a Support Group instead of a Branch. We would also be pleased to have one or two more members on the committee to help with organising events.

Jane Henderson from Parkinson's UK will help to chair our AGM and will explain the difference between being a Branch and a Support Group.

We have found a potential new Minutes Secretary for 2020, and are awaiting completion of the volunteer authorisation forms from London.

Any Committee nominations to Bill please.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Branch holds basic information about each member in order to keep them informed about meetings and activities. The information is stored on the membership secretary's computer and is encrypted to keep it safe.

Membership lists are occasionally printed out for use by committee members only. Information about members is never made available to any other third party.

If you have any concerns about data protection, please contact the membership secretary.

Corsham & Cricklade Cafés

Sally Wood, our Area Development Manager, holds two cafés for people affected by Parkinson's at:

Corsham

The Greenhouse Restaurant, Wadswick Green, Corsham, SN13 9RD on the first Monday of each month from 10.30 to 12 noon.

Cricklade

The Cricklade Club, 38 High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AY, on the third Wednesday of the month from 10.30 to 12 noon

Contact: Sally Wood 0344 225 3670

Changes of Address

If your home address or email address changes, please let Carol know so that we can keep our records up to date. Thankyou.

Parkinson's UK

Parkinson's UK is the operating name of the Parkinson's Disease Society of the United Kingdom. A charity registered in England and Wales (258197) and in Scotland (SC037554). A company limited by guarantee.

Registered No. 948776 (England and Wales).

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