

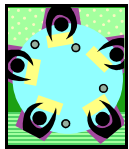


Multiple Sclerosis Society

Notes from the last committee meeting 15th March 2011

What's happening at the Leicester Branch ?

This leaflet is designed to try to keep you up to date with what is happening at the MS Society Leicester branch, and what the committee are doing



Who is on the committee?

Steve Pugh	Chair	Rhys Meredith	Treasurer
Jitendra Kanabar	Secretary	Nickie Lomas	Vice Treasurer
Neil Galleymore	Fundraising Lead		
Jane Tindle	Newsletter & website editor and social secretary		

We are sorry to say that Pete Tattersall has decided to stand down from the committee but look forward to him being around at the drop-in and being involved in other events. We would like to thank Pete for all his hard work. At the same time, we are delighted to have some new faces on the committee and hope you will join us in welcoming Jitendra, Neil, Rhys and Nickie. Steve, Rhys and Nickie are our new bank signatories.

Annual Meeting: 11th May 2011

The Leicester Branch Annual Meeting is to take place on the evening of Wednesday 11th May at the Peepul Centre. We will be running the meeting as a combined Annual meeting and Information event and will be inviting a guest speaker as well as the MS nurse and Therapy Centre to attend. Watch this space for further details.....



Branch Fundraising and Finances

Lots of amazing fundraising has been happening and we were delighted to hear from fundraising representatives Richard Pettit and Martin Isaac that the bike ride had raised £46,000. Our thanks to all those who took to the saddle! Neil Galleymore has recently joined us as our Fundraising Lead and is currently putting together a fundraising plan for us to include a summer BBQ, race night and charity variety show alongside the ongoing collections. If you would like to be involved you can contact Neil on geordieneil@live.co.uk or 07813 072 514.



The Shop

After much thought and consideration the committee decided the shop was no longer viable and have started the process of closing it. The shop had made a loss in 2009 and only a small profit in 2010. Given the lack of volunteers to either manage or run the shop it was decided the best thing to do would be to close it, concentrate on other fundraising opportunities and work towards raising the profile of the society and branch in other ways. It was a difficult decision and we would like to thank all the volunteers who have worked there over the years for their hard work and dedication.



Website

The MS Society will be launching its new website during MS Week May 23rd to 29th and the Leicester branch website will be updated to reflect the new style.



The Minibus

The committee have decided that it is time to sell the minibus. In recent years the bus has been used to transport furniture around for the shop and now the shop is going to close and we have no drivers it was felt it was time to sell it. Another consideration was its age and the lack of anywhere to keep it. It was felt a much cheaper option would be to hire ad hoc transport as required.

Drop In

The committee hopes to put a plan of activities together for this year, based on what you have told us you want. If you would like to be involved in delivering any activities at the drop in such as a quiz or a talk on a passion of yours, please let us know. The committee have been actively approaching local companies for prizes for the weekly raffle and look forward to seeing what we get!



Building Update

Steve met with Pick Everard's architects this week and it was agreed that the priority was to get the access to the building right for everyone. Steve has a follow up meeting with them in a months time and has asked them to ensure that people attending the drop-in have the opportunity to be involved in and give their views about the design.

Outings

The committee have started to organise days out, and trips to Ulverscroft Grange, a Hope and Anchor boat trip and a Peter le Marchant boat trip in the spring and summer are all to be looked forward to. If you would like to help organise any of the outings just let Jane know.