



Multiple Sclerosis Society

Happy New Year



This Newsletter's main points.

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Happy New Year.

Wishing you all a very warm welcome to 2018 and the first MS newsletter of the year. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you a happy and healthy 2018.

Last year finished well with a successful Fayre and children's party. Thank you to everyone who came to the Fayre, it was lovely to see so many of you. I was made aware of some of you having trouble parking, and I am sorry if you were one of them. The site had seemed perfect for us, with the large hall, lots of tables, the use of the kitchen and disabled access. However, although I had thought the Guet would provide enough parking for us, it was not suitable for many, and there were not enough extra spaces.

I will look into other establishments and see if there is another more suitable place for us this year, which is within our budget!

The Children's Christmas party was a great success again this year. Brandi from B Creative Dance provided non stop entertainment for the children, I only wish I had half her energy!! She organized a team game for the children where they had to make a snowman using toilet paper!



Obviously there was also quite a lot of enjoyment for Mother Christmas, (A.K.A. me) who had a fabulous time giving out the presents and demanding a kiss in return!!



I am endeavouring to add new posts to the MS website and our Facebook page as often as I can. One of the new ideas was to have a Friday Facts page, where I am posting facts or items on research. I realise some of you do not use Facebook but if you log onto our website, www.guernseymms.com you will find a tab on the left to redirect you to the MS Facebook page.

And finally on the last pages of this newsletter you will find a different sort of puzzle from our word searches to start the New Year with, Sudoku. The rules of the game are simple: each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box. If you struggle with the puzzle, the answers are on the next sheet. Good Luck.

Don't forget if you are not enjoying my puzzles, then please send me one of your own to print! I would welcome the help!

I look forward to seeing many of you this year.

Best wishes
Gill
MS Secretary

Chairman's report for the first 2018 newsletter

Happy New Year to you all and I hope it will be an enjoyable one!

A lot seems to have happened since the last newsletter and I hope I can capture the main events. One of the things we asked you to do last time, was to complete our survey. We had about 40 responses and these are proving very useful. For example, before Christmas, Gill Ford and I went to meet with Debbie Robilliard and Kay Shackleton (her manager) to discuss a number of issues, one of which was communication between the Adult Physical Disability Team, Debbie and ourselves. Your various comments were extremely helpful in informing the discussions and plans have been made to improve matters –THANK YOU!

December is always a busy month and as usual we had the Fayre (thank you Gill) and the Children's Party (thank you Alex) which are reported elsewhere. However you may not have been aware that MS participated in the Christmas Tree Festival held at the Town Church during December. Various charities are invited to 'dress' a Christmas tree to represent their own charity and they are all displayed around the church. I think there must have been 30+ trees (sorry I didn't count) and they looked splendid! The final 'December' event that I would like to mention is Liz Hendry's Christmas tea. As you know Liz kindly organises a monthly tea/coffee afternoon with wonderful homemade cakes (by her!) and about 15-20 people come and chat and enjoy a short break. At Christmas there were sandwiches, cakes and even crackers to

get us in the festive spirit. As Liz has become a grandmother this year (and therefore has some new duties), these tea parties will move in 2018, to the third TUESDAY in every month, rather than the Thursday. All are welcome. I would like to thank Liz, on behalf of everyone, for arranging these for us all.

In the last newsletter, we mentioned the “Million Miles for MS” event that was held throughout September. This was really successful and got a lot of individuals and teams out there clocking up the miles they covered. Additionally, although this wasn’t the prime reason for the event, some £8,500 was raised in sponsorship and this will be given equally to the Guernsey MS Society and the Guernsey Cheshire Home. It is planned to repeat this event for the foreseeable future, and therefore your committee decided to award two small trophies, one for the ‘Best Team’ and the other for the ‘Best Individual’. For 2017 the recipients are the Grammar School and Steve le Page (past chairman) respectively. We are planning a small awards ceremony at the Grammar School on Wednesday January 17th 2018 and hope to get some Press coverage – watch out for a few lines and hopefully a photo!

Just before Christmas we were informed that we have been picked as one of the Saffery Rotary Walk chosen charities for 2018. This means we will receive a portion of the funds raised by the 2018 walk. The start of this will be a photo of all the chosen charities and I will be attending to represent MS. However the main thing is to support the walk and try and get as much money raised as possible. The walk will take place on Saturday June 9th

so please encourage your family and friends to participate, sponsor those walking, or just come along on the day and cheer the walkers on!

The website for information, entry forms etc is www.safferyrotarywalk.com. and in the meantime, if you are on Facebook perhaps you can 'like' the event page www.facebook.com/SafferyRotaryWalk and /or follow the event on Twitter @SRIslandWalk.

Lastly, one of our members spotted the planning application for the move of the Medical Specialist Group from Alexandra House to Park St and asked us to join her in objecting to the move, for a number of reasons. I therefore had correspondence with Karen Blanchford (GDA), Dr Yarwood (the chairman of the MSG) and also the MSG communications manager Neil Robilliard. There were several articles in the Press as well. Ultimately the application was refused, and so for the present MSG will be staying put.

Please continue to contact us with any of your concerns and worries and where possible we will try and help. In the mean time there are several more 'irons in the fire' and hopefully I will have more news in due course.

Linda Fermont
MS Chair

Events so far this year

10th January - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

16th January 2pm – 4pm Liz’s Tea/coffee afternoon at the Cotils.

17th January - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

20th February 2pm – 4pm Liz’s Tea/coffee afternoon at the Cotils.

24th January - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

31st January - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

7th February - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

14th February - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

21st February - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

28th February - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

7th March - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

14th March - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

20th March 2pm – 4pm Liz’s Tea/coffee afternoon at the Cotils.

21st March - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

28th March - Specialised exercise class at Beau Sejour

For further details on the exercises classes at Beau Sejour contact Maggie at magster@cwgsy.net.

For further details on the tea/coffee afternoons contact Liz at lizhendry@cwgsy.net

TBC - MS Awareness week. (21st April - Flag Day, 25th April - WOW.)

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