

GOSPORT AND FAREHAM BRANCH OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

**From the Secretary – Juliette Hewitt, 11 Beech Grove, Gosport,
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Dear

Time for another newsletter, which will bring us up to Christmas! Just where has this year gone? We seem to have spent most of it waiting for the summer to begin.

Next year 2012 will be the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the Gosport and Fareham Branch in 1982. Previously the whole area came under Portsmouth, which was obviously far too large and impersonal – so the decision was made to set up on our own.

How things have changed over those 30 years – No more bingo – well not too often! Although not perfect people with M.S. now have a voice at all levels even that of government. There is now even an all party Parliamentary Committee on M.S.

M.S. Specialist Nurse – As most of you will know by now we have a new Specialist Nurse. I enclose a flyer giving her contact details. I know that Annabella is already very much “on the job” and I have heard lots of good things being said about her.

Sponsored Tandem Skydive – I also enclose a flyer giving details of a skydive our Chairman George is organizing in May next year. He has already had several volunteers. Let’s make it a day out and organize a trip to Old Sarum Airfield to support and witness the event.

Needing help with household chores?

Gosport Voluntary Action runs Homeserve which incorporates:-

Dustbusters – housework etc

DART – Painting and decorating, minor plumbing, security work i.e. fitting key safes. Home adaptations i.e. installing handrails.

Gosport Gardens - general garden work – weeding, hoeing & mowing

For further information telephone 023 9360 1314 or 023 9250 3871

Family Tree Research – Looking for something interesting to do during the winter months? Kate Tame the wife of one of our members has had a lot of experience in the field of family history research and is willing to give help and support to anyone needing it.

She is even willing to travel to your home. Kate's no: is 01329 310233.
Beware of what you might dig up!

Hillhead Chalet – The last chalet of the summer season is on Wednesday 14th September starting at 11.30am. Either bring a picnic or we'll send out for fish and chips.

Regular Activities

I have drawn up a diary which lists all our regular activities such as the physio and lunch group, the yoga and the pub get "togethers". The craft group, which meets on the second Monday of the month at the Golden Bowler Stubbington, is on the following dates:-

Monday 12th September – acrylic painting with Rachael

Monday 10th October – Pottery with Debie

Monday 14th November – Making boxes with Rae

Monday 12th December – Making Christmas tree decorations

Please let us know in advance if you would like to come. Please ring Ruth on 01329 318451 or 07817 358672.

We would be pleased to see you at these activities. We're a friendly bunch of people and you would be made very welcome.

Alverstoke Michaelmas Fayre Saturday 24th September – opening at 12.00 o'clock. The Branch will be running our now regular stall selling plants, M.S. Christmas cards, DVD's of Old Gosport and homemade cakes.

Can I make an appeal to you for donations of homemade cakes – as these always sell very well. I can collect if necessary or you can deliver straight to the stall.

By special request "Delia Smith's" version of bread pudding will be on sale

Christmas Events

Sorry for mentioning Christmas so early but I need to publicize two events:

Christmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar this year to be held on Saturday 3rd December opening at 1.30pm in the Nicolson hall- opposite the White Hart pub.

It's never too early to start collecting suitable items for sale. We particularly need toiletries, games and bottles for the tombola stall.

Christmas Dinner Party –

The Christmas Dinner Party this year to be held on Thursday 8th December again at the Palmerston Bowling Club in Fareham, 6.30pm for 7pm start. I am sorry that this is a bit early but this was the only available date. It's such a popular venue.

I will send out menus for you to choose from in early November. Meanwhile make a date in your diary – it's always an enjoyable evening and being early in the month you won't have had too many Christmas meals!

Living and working with M.S.

An information day in Basingstoke on 24th September. Don't forget this interesting day organized by the M.S. Conference Team to which I am sure you have all had an invitation (and if you not going to the Michelmas Fayre).

RESEARCH DONATION

You will be interested to know that we have just donated £4,000 to the Cambridge Myelin repair project.

Well I think that covers everything for the moment.

Hope to see you all soon.

Best wishes

Juliette