

Chair's Welcome

Welcome to our special edition for June Month of Awareness 2014.

This year we decided to concentrate our efforts on raising overall awareness of the disease, the work of the Association and our Group and gain support and signatures for the MND Charter.

We set ourselves the target of completing an action for every day on the month, even though we were a little worried that 30 things would be a tall order.

We stopped counting when we reached the 38th event!

Funds are still coming in but expected to be over £8,000! This is truly a record-breaking amount and in addition to the 300 signatures achieved for the Charter.

This is only achieved by lots of hard work, organisation and passion from our team and all those of you who have helped us by holding Bake it events, campaigning, selling raffle tickets, organising store donations to name but a few. A massive **Thank You to All**.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and do let us have your news and views.

Alison Aviss

Great Western Hospital, Swindon: Charter Signing Event



As part of June MND Month of Awareness, we held a Charter Signing event at the Great Western Hospital in Swindon. Leah Baigel, Clinical Nurse Specialist for MND who convinced senior hospital executives to support this initiative, made the event possible. We are very grateful to Leah, Dr Graham Lennox and the senior hospital executives for this excellent opportunity.



Senior executives of the hospital showed their support by signing, together with many members of staff, visitors and also patients. Three Labour councilors, Anne Snelgrove for South Swindon, Mark Dempsey for North Swindon and Chris Watts for Devizes, also showed their support by coming to sign. The current MPs for Swindon have signed previously.

SEQOL Charter Signing and Bake It!



Michelle Howard, Chair of SEQOL signed our Charter during a morning that Heather, Susanne & Barbara attended at their head office in North Swindon.

In addition to gaining 37 signatures for the Charter, our home made cakes proved very popular achieving £48.52 in donations. A great deal of interest was shown by many Seqol staff concerning the benefits of the Charter and the needs of people with MND.

Our grateful thanks to Stella Knowles, Christine Howells, Denise Lewis and Michelle Howard for enabling this event.

SEQOL is a social enterprise – a business with a social purpose, to provide quality care and support for adults in Swindon and the surrounding area, that focuses on the individual, not the system. Its social purpose is supporting people to make the most of their lives. That not only drives everything they do – but also how they do it. Their integrated approach enable them to provide the balance of high quality support and care needed to live life as you want to – in your own home wherever possible and enjoying the dignity and respect you deserve. Most importantly, they give you genuine choice in your care wherever possible.



Arthur's Coffee Morning

Arthur was delighted when more than a dozen friends and neighbours joined him for coffee and cake during this year's Month of Awareness.

A selection of delicious home made cakes was on offer and donations amounted to £90.70 plus 4 more signatures for the Charter.

Arthur's wife Joyce was diagnosed with MND in 2011, and he is keen to raise funds and awareness to help with both finding a cure and making life easier for those who have the disease.

These are just some of the highlights of a fantastic month of raising awareness and funds. Look out for our Autumn newsletter which will have details of even more exciting events that have been taking place in the North Wiltshire area. Please contact us at info@mndnorthwiltshire.org.uk if you have any news or require further information

Chiseldon Football Club Bake It!

MND North Wiltshire raised £120 towards fighting MND from it's Bake-It! sale on 1st June at the Chiseldon Football Club Annual Family Fun Day. It was a beautiful sunny day and the spread of cakes ranged from gooey chocolate cakes, banana muffins and 'St George's Cross' cupcakes, through to coffee cake and individual flapjacks. Thanks to the generosity of the club we were also able to offer teas and coffees to the families there. We also managed to raise awareness of MND and gathered signatures for our Charter.

The football club is run on a purely voluntary basis and are always looking to develop new ways to expand the fun day, keeping it fresh and attractive to the children and parents who attend. The cake stall added a new dimension and the club raised £800 for their own funds through a barbecue and games for the club members. This will help them to keep the youth teams running, provide training for their coaches and help buy kit for the club for the whole year.



Chairman, Matthew Clarke, said *"The football club is delighted MND North Wiltshire was able to contribute a variety of delicious baked goods towards the event whilst also raising awareness of MND. Local organisations working together in this way can only be positive and it is an exercise we will look to repeat in the near future."*

Sharon & Tom's Bake It Sale

Sharon & Tom kindly offered their driveway for a June Bake It event.

On a busy main road, the stall attracted plenty of attention from neighbours and passers-by.

Home made cakes, including Jaffa cupcakes and Victoria sandwiches, and

preserves soon sold out resulting in orders

being taken and Sharon putting in an extra baking shift the following day!

A total of £163 was raised

with 16 more Charter signatures

including one from the postman!



Our friends at Prospect Hospice support the MND Charter



During June we were grateful for the opportunity to visit the Hospice to collect more signatures for the Charter. This reflects the excellent working relationship that we have built with one another.

Pictured left with Alison Aviss, Chair of the North Wilts Group, are Angela Jordan, Chief Executive of Prospect Hospice and Tim Willis who is Chair of their board of trustees.

Other photos show Ann Hughes, Occupational Therapist (left), Andrew Thompson, Communications Manager & Jo Hyde, Carer Support Lead (right), and Phillipa Huxtable, Volunteer Services Manager (below)



Waitrose Donation

COMMUNITY MATTERS

MND North Wiltshire was nominated to be one of the chosen charities for the local Waitrose Group Community Matters for June. We were competing against two other charities for a share in the £3,000 the store gave away for the month.

Customers at the new Waitrose supermarket in Wichelstowe receive a green disc when they make any size purchase. They can then choose to drop a disc into the box of the charity of their choice. Each charity receives a share of the £3,000 according to the number of discs they receive.

We are delighted to tell you that we have been awarded £500 from the Waitrose scheme for June 2014.

Look out for similar boxes at John Lewis, Mannington, Swindon, where our group has also been nominated. The scheme runs for 3 months, so you still have time to vote and boost our funds even further!

