

Newsletter

Cumnor House raises £150,000 for MND

After a very busy year of fundraising, Cumnor House School presented a cheque for £153,395.51 to the MND Association Head Office, our Branch at West Sussex North and the East Sussex Branch. This is a phenomenal amount which will make such a massive difference to the Branches as well as the efforts at Head Office. The cheque was presented by the school's Head Boy and Girl, their mothers and the Head Master's wife, Belinda Heinrich.

Tracey Robson, who supported the fundraising efforts, with Charlie Tomlinson, Charlotte Hands, Kate Rowe-Ham, Emily Hendin, Anna Sommers and Alicia Drummond say their primary focus was to raise as much money as possible. She said: "The lives of three of us have been touched by Motor Neurone Disease, which gave us a real incentive to raise as much money as possible over the past 11 months.

"I'm so proud of everything we've achieved over the past year.

"It's amazing what you can achieve when you pull together as a team with a true sense of community spirit."

To give you a flavour of the hard work by the team and their year round commit-



ment to supporting and making difference to those living with MND:

- Christmas Fayre, which raised more than £27,000
- Friday tuck shop that raised £700 in just two weeks
- Curry quiz night raised £2,000

- Art exhibition with London artist Jeremy Houghton that raised £3,500
- Sell-out charity ball at Brighton's AMEX stadium hosted by presenter Jonny Gould, raising £120,000 for the Charity.

A huge thank you and congratulations to the team at Cumnor House School.

Fun at the Quiz Night



We held our annual quiz night on Saturday 11th November. This year we had 14 teams battling through 6 rounds of mind boggling questions. DENSA reigned victorious answering an impressive 93% of the questions correctly.

The raffle prizes were equally impressive with the branch being supported by (amongst others) Ockenden Manor Spa, Peter James, Café Nero, Tufnells and local stores in Hassocks. Thank you to everyone

who sourced a raffle prize and to those who made so many delicious cakes to keep those brain cells working.

Thanks are given to the St Francis Sports and Social Club, who not only provide the venue at no charge, look after us every year with good humour but also provided two fabulous raffle prizes.

The evening raised a whopping £819 - thanks everyone!

Annual Parliamentary Reception



Penny Mordaunt MP, Minister for Disabled People, Work and Health addressing the Reception (left) and Charlotte Hawkins, Penny Mordaunt and Sally Light (right). Below is Derek Dente with Charlotte and Sally.



October saw the annual MND parliamentary reception held in London, in partnership with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on motor neurone disease.

Over 130 volunteers travelled to Westminster from across the Association's regions and nations of England, Wales and Northern Ireland for our annual parliamentary reception, including 39 people living with MND, the largest ever gathering of people with MND at an Association event.

Over 50 parliamentarians attended, with just one from our area - Sir Nicholas

Soames (Mid Sussex).

The Association's Patron, Charlotte Hawkins, made a heart wrenching speech about her father's experience of MND. Additionally Rob Owen, who is living with MND, spoke about his experience of being reassessed for the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) which was quite shocking.

The APPG on MND launched their anticipated report on access to Personal Independence Payment (PIP). The inquiry found that people with MND were experiencing problems throughout the PIP process – from finding out about

the benefit in the first place, to being reassessed unnecessarily.

A special thank you to Derek Dente who attended and contributed to this story.



Award-winning floral designer raises over £1,500

The award-winning floral designer, Sue Flight, hosted a flower arrangement demonstration in aid of our Branch back in October in Wivelsfield Village Hall.

Unsurprisingly it was a highly popular event, with 120 people coming to see and hear from Sue. And the scones were a huge success too (thank you Carol!!)

The beautiful flower displays were ruffled off. So along with ticket sales, £1,530 was raised for the Branch.

A special thank you has to go to Sue Flight for donating her time and skill for



free, for everyone to enjoy, and the volunteers who were certainly kept busy serving teas and selling the raffle tick-

ets. We hope to see some of your own flower displays inspired by Sue - do get in touch to share them!

West Sussex County Council to adopt MND Charter



Still early days, but the Council are pursuing adopting the MND Charter. A roundtable is scheduled for February so watch this space for updates!



West Sussex North Branch

Save the Date: AGM 15th April 3 - 5.30pm. Please note this will be at a different venue to normal, and will be held at Centenary Hall, St Wilfred's Way, Haywards Heath.

Tough Mudder raises £2,700

Article written by Ron Stevenson



Polly, my youngest and somewhat adventure prone daughter, announced to us "Incidentally, me and the guys from work are thinking about doing a Tough Mudder...I think it's a bit of cross country running and a few obstacles. Should be fun and I'll see if I can raise a few quid for the local MND Branch."

No more was heard until late the phone jingled "Dad....need some help setting up the JustGiving page so the money goes to the branch. I'm aiming for £250".

So as the day approached we checked that the fundraising page was running and we kept having to move the fundraising target - £250, £300, no now up to £500..."WOW! Heading for 4 fig-

ures... people are so generous! Really got to nail this now!" says Polly.

For those of you who don't know, Tough Mudder is not just a cross country run, it is 12 miles of hard work with 20 exhausting obstacles!

On the day 30 TeamSkySports came to join Polly's team. All completed the gruelling course and were undefeated by any of those obstacles! Wet, muddy, weary and filled with the conquerors sense of justified jubilation!

As word was transmitted the sponsorship just grew and grew. The final total including was well in excess of an incredible £2,700! What an amazing effort, in every sense... AND WHAT FUN!

Branch Socials 2018

Branch Socials 3 - 5pm at The Ark in Turners Hill.

- Sunday 25th February
- Sunday 24th June
- Sunday 19th August
- Sunday 14th October
- Sunday 9th December

Next Horsham Street Collection

The Horsham Street Collection always delivers well for the Branch so the more support and volunteers we have the better. Please contact Liz Carter on 01444 483952 if you can help out on **Saturday 2nd June**.

Branch named as Haywards Heath Golf Captains' charity of the year

We are pleased to announce that our branch has been chosen as the Haywards Heath Golf Captains' charity of the year.

Mitch Clark who has personal experience of MND, having lost his brother to the disease, took up position of Captain of the Golf Club on 1st January 2018. The women's captain, Margaret May, is in full support of the charity too.

At the launch event, Chris Sheridan was invited to speak about the work of the branch and how we support people living with MND, their families and carers.

The Captains will, amongst other events, be hosting a ball, running a club charity day and organising a sponsored walk.

At the launch event bets were taken on how far the Captains would hit a ball - raising over £1,200 already!

The Captains have requested that one third of the money raised be used to support research and the remainder used to support people living locally.

Committee

President

Dr Steve Dyer

Chair

Julie Unsted
07709 425957

Julie@
mndwestsussexnorth
.com

Vice Chair

Chris Sheridan
01444 245486

Secretary

Liz Carter
01444 483952

Treasurer

Mike Abbott
01444 455084

Newsletter Editor

Joanne Rogers

Committee Members

Christine Colbourne
Joan Moon

Association Visitors

Chris Sheridan
Stephanie Barfield
Carol Rieley

Other ways of getting in touch...

www.mndwestsussexnorth.com

westsussexnorth@mndassociation.org

Facebook:
mndwestsussexnorth

Twitter:
@mndwestsussexnorth

Treasurer's List of Monies Received & Spent

Thank you to everyone for their contributions. The below are the cleared funds received for the third quarter 2017.

(All information was the best available at time of going to press).

MONEY RECEIVED

Money from activities:

Staplefield Village day Tombola	£108
Kay Molloy and Joy Wilkinson - Garden Concert!	£791
Barbara Dente - Stall at Ellington Park, Ramsgate	£95
Wivelsfield Flower Show - Advance Ticket Sales	£30

Box Collections:

Fabric Shop, Burgess Hill	£39
Norfolk Arms, Horsham	£32

Donations and Gifts:

Colin and Pat Bendall	£200
Waitrose - Corporate Donation	£395
Martin & Valeria Cummings	£50
Staplefield lunch Club	£50
Rotary Club Cuckfield & Lindfield	£1,000

Other income:

Bank Interest	£14
Gift Aid	£6

MONEY SPENT

Financial Support for members & carers:

Contribution to Washer/Drier	£500
Contribution to Attend National AGM	£163
Contribution to Members Lunch	£43
Carers Grants (one grant)	£500

Expenses:

Visitors - Travel Allowance	£330
South East Forum (two delegates)	£120

Other:

Chief Executive Appeal (To MND Connect, Association Visitors and Research)	£3,000
--	--------

PUBLISHED BY: West Sussex North Branch of the MND Association.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the MND Association. If products and services are mentioned, these should not be taken as recommendations by the Association, who cannot be held responsible should any complaint arise.

We would like to keep in contact with you about the important work we do. If you do not wish to receive further information please contact a member of the Committee.

MND Connect

The number is
0808 802 6262