

Branch Committee 2012-2013

Chairman	Dr J Jestic
Secretary	Mrs J Berger
Treasurer	vacancy
Committee	
Mr E Ehret	Transport Officer
Mr D Hutchinson	
Mrs H Liddell	
Mr J Pettifer	Vice Chairman
Ms C Rasburn	Support Officer
Mr D Rose	
Miss S Sasse	
Mr F Smart	
Mrs L Summers	

The Annual Meeting March 17th 2012

The highlight of the Annual Meeting was a talk by Professor Gavin Giovannoni in which he talked about current drug trials. The general picture was, I think, hopeful and our members were pleased with the general import of his talk.

The other main item was the election of officers and committee. Our Chairman, Dr Jestic, continued in his role, having been elected last year for a period of three years. Our Branch Secretary, Janet Berger, was willing to stand again which was good news. The bad news was that we had no candidate for Branch Treasurer following the resignation of John Harragan who felt unable to continue in the post in view of the way he felt we had been treated by the National Centre throughout the negotiations over the legacy left to the Branch by Dennis Davies.

There was no election for Branch Support Officer in view of the fact that the whole Support system is being overhauled and the London branches will be involved later in the year. Carol Rasburn will continue as Support Officer while we await the rolling out of the new system.

In previous years we elected the Vice-Chairman and the Transport Officer at the A(G)M but were not supposed to do that. Instead the two posts would be filled at the first meeting of the new committee. The number of committee members to be elected matched the number of candidates so they were elected ***nem con.***

At the first committee meeting, John Pettifer and Dennis Rose put themselves forward for the post of Branch Vice-Chairman and John was elected. Edward Ehret was elected Transport Officer, ***nem con.***

Remember that the committee is YOUR committee. If you feel that things are not as they should be, please talk to any officer or committee member and put your views to them. Your Centre Manager, Joe Hill, is not a member of the committee but is always happy to talk things through with you. If you feel more comfortable and would prefer to put things in writing, please send the letter to your Branch Secretary, Janet Berger.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 20 April Collection at Tesco's Woodford Green

Saturday 21 April Collection at Tesco's Woodford Green

Can you help?

Tuesday 8 May Committee Meeting 5 pm

Thursday 10 May Thursday Evening Group 7.30 pm

Wednesday 16 May Cinema Club 3 pm

Saturday 19 May Bingo Evening at the Centre 6 for 6.30 pm

Tickets £10

Run by the Rotary Club of Wanstead and Snaresbrook who have made us their charity for the year. Come along and have a fun evening and raise money for your centre.

TRIPS OUT 2012

You will remember the excellent trips we had last year arranged by your Transport Officer with the very strong help and support of your drivers. This year's trips are not yet finalised so if there is anywhere you would like to go, either somewhere we've been before or a completely new place, please have a chat with Edward.

These do not have to be day trips – we could go out for an evening somewhere, perhaps have a meal or a drink – what about our local theatres? We went to the Brick Lane Theatre last year and we have been to the Queen's Theatre in Romford but not recently, as far as I can recall, to The Kenneth More Theatre in Ilford.

We have in mind, at the moment, trips to Hastings, to the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway, to the RHS Garden at Wisley, and a return, perhaps, to Southend. If we have sufficient requests, we could return to the Canal Boat trip...The RHS Garden at Wisley charges £9.50 per person in a group, though we might be able to cut that down a little. The Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch railway also charges, from £9.40 to £15 depending on how far you travel on the railway.

In Rochester, the Dickens Festival takes place in June, on Friday the 8th, Saturday the 9th and Sunday the 10th. In addition, the Dickensian Christmas will be on Saturday and Sunday the 1st and 2nd of December.

If you are interested in any of these new (or old) places, let us know asap so that we can take your wishes into account when firming up our plans.

FOOD HYGIENE

Every so often the Public Health Inspector from the London Borough of Redbridge arrives unannounced to inspect the kitchen and one Tuesday morning recently she appeared. As is her custom, she looked everywhere in the kitchen and stock room, in fridges, freezers, cupboards, drawers...

At the end of all this, it was pleasing, especially for the volunteers who work in the kitchen, to learn that the inspector declared the kitchen to be “without fault”. Congratulations and thanks to all who work in the kitchen...

GREETINGS

No, not to you, dear reader... That is the title of the Centre Magazine put together by Don Egner, with a great amount of help from Mary Colburn. It is not intended to replace the Year Book or, indeed, the newsletters. It is, in Don's words "a magazine to entertain you, written by members of The Marjorie Collins Centre". Its contents include "a letter from Marjorie, a wartime evacuee's story, some drama, a newcomer's view, a quiz, jokes quotations and more". It is more than worth the £1 (minimum) donation that Don is asking for it and all proceeds will go to the Centre. If you don't get to the centre, get in touch and we'll see what we can do to get a copy to you – at no extra charge!

LEGACIES

At the Annual Meeting a member raised the question of legacies. If anyone would like information on legacies, please contact John Pettifer via the Centre.

CENTRE CAR PARK

Those of you whom come by car to the centre are no doubt well aware that there are times, especially on a Tuesday, when there seems to be no space left. I say “seems to be” since very often the parking has been a little bit careless.

Please remember to “park prettily” – i.e. park strictly within the places as they are marked.

You will notice that the spaces on the right are larger than the ‘spaces on the left – the intention is that cars with disabled members need a bit more space so that the person can transfer to a wheelchair, for example. Consequently, if you are able-bodied, please park on the left hand side of the car park, if a space is available.

MS Society Code of Conduct

The MS Society believes that all individuals involved with or working on behalf of people affected by MS should respect one another and work constructively to achieve our common goals. WE therefore ask that all those connected with or acting on behalf of the MS Society take personal responsibility for undertaking the following:

To be a positive ambassador for the Society and ensure that you take no purposeful action or make any comment which might damage the society

To show respect to all and a commitment to access and inclusion for all individuals connected to the Society, understanding that no form of harassment will be tolerated

To recognise that the Society is a democratic organisation, to abide by decisions made by elected committees and to work with others to resolve any conflicts which may arise

To respect and understand the need for confidentiality

To take reasonable steps to ensure the health and safety of yourself and to protect the property of the Society

To be committed and reliable in your role(s) within the Society and not use your position to pursue personal issues or policies which conflict with those of the Society

To accept the need for reasonable training, guidance and support relating to your role(s) within the Society

This Code is a statement of the values that we will uphold in all our dealings and that we will expect others to maintain when working with us. Anyone requiring support or advice relating to this code is encouraged to contact the MS Society.

It is vitally important that all of us who come to the centre in whatsoever capacity bear the Code of Conduct in mind in our relationship with each other so that the atmosphere at the centre is enjoyable, positive and pressure free.

REDBRIDGE BRANCH CINEMA CLUB

Early notice of our first cinema club meeting – on Wednesday 16th of May at 3 pm at the Marjorie Collins Centre.

Two films on this date

The Guard – described as “an Irish black comedy – the most successful independent Irish film of all time in terms of Irish box-office receipts”

Brigadoon – the 1954 musical masterpiece

Please let us know if you would like to come along to the show.

JUBILEE TEA PARTY

We are looking at the possibility of arranging a tea party to celebrate the jubilee – it will be held before the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend so as not to interfere with any celebrations at home. Probably