

GOSPORT AND FAREHAM BRANCH OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

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Dear Member

I hope you have had a good summer and have managed to keep your heads above water. At least the heat has not really been a problem this year!

This will be the first late summer newsletter in which I have not made an appeal for items for the Christmas bazaar. Sorry for even mentioning the word! We have decided to abandon this event. It's a lot of work for less and less return each time and fewer people are coming through the doors. We felt it was all a bit flat last year – and time to call it a day! Children are no longer interested in spending their pocket money on bits and pieces, as my grandchildren did in the early years. They all want something featuring the new technology!

Instead Mave has booked HEDCA in Elson for **Saturday December 12th** for a social and fun fundraising evening (she said she will make sure we have a tombola, so we may still need bottles!!) The White Hart is also booked for 1pm **Thursday December 17th** for our Christmas meal. More details later but make a note in your diary.

Michaelmas Fayre is in Alverstoke Village on Saturday September 26th starting 12 midday. Once again, we have booked a stall. This is an excellent fundraising event but also helps raise public awareness and the profile of the branch. We will be selling MS Christmas cards and hopefully cakes and plants, so can I make an appeal for contributions! Also if anyone is willing to help man the stall, it will be very much appreciated. Bread pudding will be available!

The Carers' Hub

For anyone who doesn't get The News, I want to let you know about the Carers' Hub, which meets on the last Monday of the month in the Nobes Hall, Nobes

Avenue, Bridgemary between 10am and 4pm and is free for carers and the people they care for.

It offers vital support and information for carers, creating somewhere they can turn to if they need help and advice. It is being run by the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and is funded by NHS Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). It's a one-stop shop where people can find out more about their rights and entitlements. Refreshments are served.

Wheelhouse Chalet, Salterns Lane car park, Hill Head, PO14 3LR, Wednesday September 16th from 11.30am until 2.30pm. Come along and help us say goodbye to the summer. Bring a picnic or we can order fish and chips. We've been lucky with the weather on each occasion that we've met there this summer so hopefully the sun will be shining on the 16th!

Store Collections – Karen has organised the following store collections:-

Saturday September 5th – Sainsbury's Fareham Broadcut

Saturday October 31st – Tesco's at Whiteley

Saturday November 21st – Tesco's at Fareham

Contact Karen on 01489 570450 if you can help, even if it's only for an hour. You meet lots of very nice people, and it can be fun!

Craft Sessions

We meet for these on the 2nd Monday of each month, starting 11am at the Golden Bowler, Stubbington Lane. Dates are as follows:-

Monday September 14th – Pottery

Monday October 12th – Art with Rachel

Monday November 9th – Card Making

Monday December 14th – Card Making, a second session with Christmas in mind!

Phone Ruth on 07817 358672 if you would like to take part. I know I've said this before, but it really is therapeutic to create something, however it turns out!

MS Fund-Raising Evening

Tina, the landlady of the Carisbrooke Arms, (Carisbrooke Road, Gosport PO13 6QY) has kindly offered the branch a fund-raising evening on Saturday, September 26th. Entrance to the pub on the evening will be £1 with the proceeds going to the branch.

The band playing on the 26th is Smalltown.

Tickets are available from the bar, phone 01329 281893 or Tina can be contacted by email on tinamthornhill@yahoo.co.uk.

NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT !

Dinner party at The Carisbrooke Monday November 2nd

When George and Graham went to visit the pub to arrange the fund-raiser, Tina was so helpful and friendly she even suggested we have a dinner there – which we have now arranged !

. I am sure you will be delighted to learn this new event at this new and very-accessible venue will be on Monday, November 2nd, 6.30 for 7pm when you can enjoy a two-course meal for £10 – a great bargain.

I am enclosing a menu with this newsletter. The Carisbrooke's restaurant is self-contained and will be just right for the night.

As both Juliette and George will be away (separately! please no rumours!) before the event, Graham is making the arrangements. Please complete the enclosed form and return to Graham.

Diary – I enclose with this newsletter a diary listing all our other activities which includes physio and lunch sessions, yoga and pub get-togethers. Do come along. You can be sure of a warm welcome!

Very best wishes

Juliette