



ANNUAL MEETING
Friday 16th May 2014 at 1.30pm
Held at Allerton Court Hotel ,Northallerton

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present and gave a warm welcome to Michelle Mitchell.

Health and Safety Checks

Chrissie did all the necessary H&S checks.

Present

Robert Adamson, Gill Elkins, Janet Chester, Chrissie Grimston, Ann Headland, Doris Watson, Ann Whitewick, Melva Steckles, Barbara Wilmington, Helmut Phol, Ruth Wheatley and Sue Sanderson, Greta Lidster, Karen Little, Val Heath, Felicity Thomas , Ann Tupling, Jan Gracey, Sue Staincliffe, Mary and Eddie Glass, Anna Newell, Janet Bickerton

Guest Speaker Michelle Mitchell CEO MS Society

Apologies

Michelle Payne

Minutes of 2013 AM

Minutes of the last AM, held on Friday 3rd May 2013 were signed as a correct record.

Chairman's Report

Before she read her report Melva read out two notices
Continence Week 23rd June to 27th June with a drop in session on 27th
June at Friarage Hospital
Care Base-Kathryn Mc Loon was there representing the company.

2013-2014 has been an amazing year for our branch;

Street collections, cake break coffee mornings, golf days, a village fête, MS Matters-Moving on Days, donations from friends, local charities, local company's and importantly awareness raising:-

We have written to all our GP's, we have written to over 200 MS patients to advise them of the help our MS branch can offer, we have worked closely with the NHS to keep our four physio groups running, and our Dales Group continues their terrific support with their monthly lunches in our rural areas.

There are many people to thank and some are with us today, those of you who have done street collections, helped at coffee mornings etc., but I really must thank the NHS teams who work in the neurology dept's., at James Cook and The Friarage Hospitals. Our MS Nurse, Karen Little is amazing, our neuropsychologist Annie Hickox who writes a column for our newsletter and has now been published in MS Matters, the physiotherapist team and not forgetting the all important continence team.

Most importantly I thank this branch committee for all their considerable dedication and inspiring hard work:-

Doris, who has managed the accounts so well as treasurer is now taking a well earned rest and handing the books over to our new member Sue Staincliffe.

Gill, who has run the Dales Luncheon group for many years and is now handing over to Chrissie and Avril.

Val, who has consistently worked on the branch Action Plan this year to give us something we can all be proud of.

Tom Green, our newsletter editor, who despite everything manages to keep a great sense of humour even when we miss deadlines!!

I should mention here that after 15 years we still have 3 people from the original committee who first set us up in 1999:- they are, Chrissie, Robert and our Honorary Member Margaret Lister; thank you for your vision.

Robert, is shortly moving to York, and I wish him every happiness and success, however, I am secretly hoping that as York is not too far away we may still have his thoughtful input at some of our meetings.

When I was asked to write a profile for our branch to send to Michelle Mitchell before her visit to us I was truly amazed at just how much we had achieved as a committee. I do urge you to read the branch profile on the wall, it is very rewarding, thank you.

Finally, I thank Michelle Mitchell, our MS Society Chief Executive, for attending our 15th Annual Meeting, it is a great pleasure and honour to have you with us.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurers Report – Extract from Pro Forma Year Ending 30 Oct 2013

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Donations/ Fundraising	£18,685	Support Grants	£8,749
Bank Interest	£ 171	Physio etc	£ 597
MSS Goods	£ 24	Room Hire	£ 253
Grants Received	£ 2,390	Transport/Travel	£1,832
Sale Donated Goods	£ 1,621	Postage	£ 344
Raffles	£ 2,001	Print/Stationery	£ 747
		Advertising	£ 65
		Sale MS Goods	£ 138
		Telephone	£ 276
		Fundraising	£4,652
		Other Costs	£ 350
		Other Branches	£ 500
TOTAL	£24,892	TOTAL	£18,503

BALANCE SHEET

Fixed Assets	0	Balance B/Fwd	£19,992
Sundry Debt/ Prepayments	0	Surplus /Deficit	£ 6,389
Bank Balance 31/10/1	£26,472	Restricted Funds	0
Current Liabilities	(£91)		
TOTAL	£26,381	TOTAL	£26,381

Another excellent year for fundraising. This Balance allows us a good base for the year ahead, our aim being to continue providing information and support to people with MS locally.

It is with some regret that I have decided to resign from the Treasurers role after 4 years, but feel it is time to hand this baton on. I shall however continue to assist the branch in whatever capacity is required.

Many thanks to all who have helped and supported me and look forward to the future and a healthy balance sheet!

Doris had been looking back to when the Branch first started on 17th February 1999 when the CEO had attended then.

The income for the first year had been £8638 and the expenditure £3374.

Doris expressed her thanks to the founder members still with us.
The committee thanked Doris for all her hard work.

Dales Support Group

The Dales MS Support Group continues to flourish, with members enjoying informal sociable get-togethers in the form of monthly lunches at many locations. The lunch details are included in the H & R branch newsletter and all are welcome.

Once again we enjoyed a lovely summer lunch provided by Val Heath. These annual lunches are becoming the highlight of the year and everyone appreciates the hospitality provided by Val and Ron who somehow also manage to arrange good weather so that we can eat outside and fully appreciate not only the wonderful food but also their beautiful garden and views over the Dale.

Having organised the group since its inception in 2001 I decided, in late 2013, that the time had come for me to take a back seat and hand over the lunch programme arrangements. Chrissie and Avril generously agreed to take this on, for which I am very grateful. I wish them every success in the future and hope they receive your continued support so that the group can go from strength to strength.

Election of Officers

Chairman	Melva Steckles Proposed D Watson, Seconded C Grimston Agreed by all
Vice Chairman	Chrissie Grimston Proposed by A Whitewick Seconded by M Steckles Agreed by all
Secretary	Ann Whitewick Proposed by C Grimston Seconded by M Steckles Agreed by all
Treasurer	Sue Staincliffe Proposed by D Watson Seconded by A Headland Agreed by all

Committee Members

Gill Elkins, Greta Lidster, Janet Chester, Helmut Phol, Ann Headland and Val Heath were all nominated
These were voted en bloc and agreed by the members

Michelle Mitchell then cut the 15th birthday cake and Melva presented her with a plant and a card.

Michelle thanked Melva for inviting her, she said it was an honour and a

privilege to come today.

She said she had a very warm Yorkshire welcome and thanked all of us for the work we do in the community and said we should be proud of what we do. We have fun we are friendly and do a lot for our area, we also have very good relationship with the professionals.

She was very impressed with our action plan and will take it back to London with her.

She went on to explain what she has achieved in the eight months since she has been CEO and set out her ideas for the future. Research is to be a big focus in the next few years and she will be setting up a Research Appeal to raise 100 million over 10 years. At present we have an annual budget of 28 million pounds and only 4 million is spent on research and area where we are highly respected. A lot of our funds come from Legacies, Money regularly donated and Community Fundraising. We need to raise our profile

Following her talk she took a wide range of questions from the floor.

Thank You's

Melva thanked Michelle for coming to our meeting. She thanked Chrissie for her help as Vice Chair

Chrissie gave a brief resume of the first club meeting it had started out in the Golden Lion as Hambleton and District then became Hambleton and Richmondshire later on. To set the group they received donations from four other clubs in the area..They had a number of social gatherings over the years, Talks, Water Colour Classes but in the end they had to give these up.

The Branch also bought a caravan to enable MS members to have a break ,this has now been sold.

In 2001 they set up the Dales Support Group.

There have been lots of changes over the years but we have always maintained a good committee and we have been a successful branch.

Chrissie thanked Michelle and Melva, the committee and also the members

The meeting closed at 3.00pm.