



motor neurone disease
association

West Surrey Branch

Newsletter - Autumn 2015

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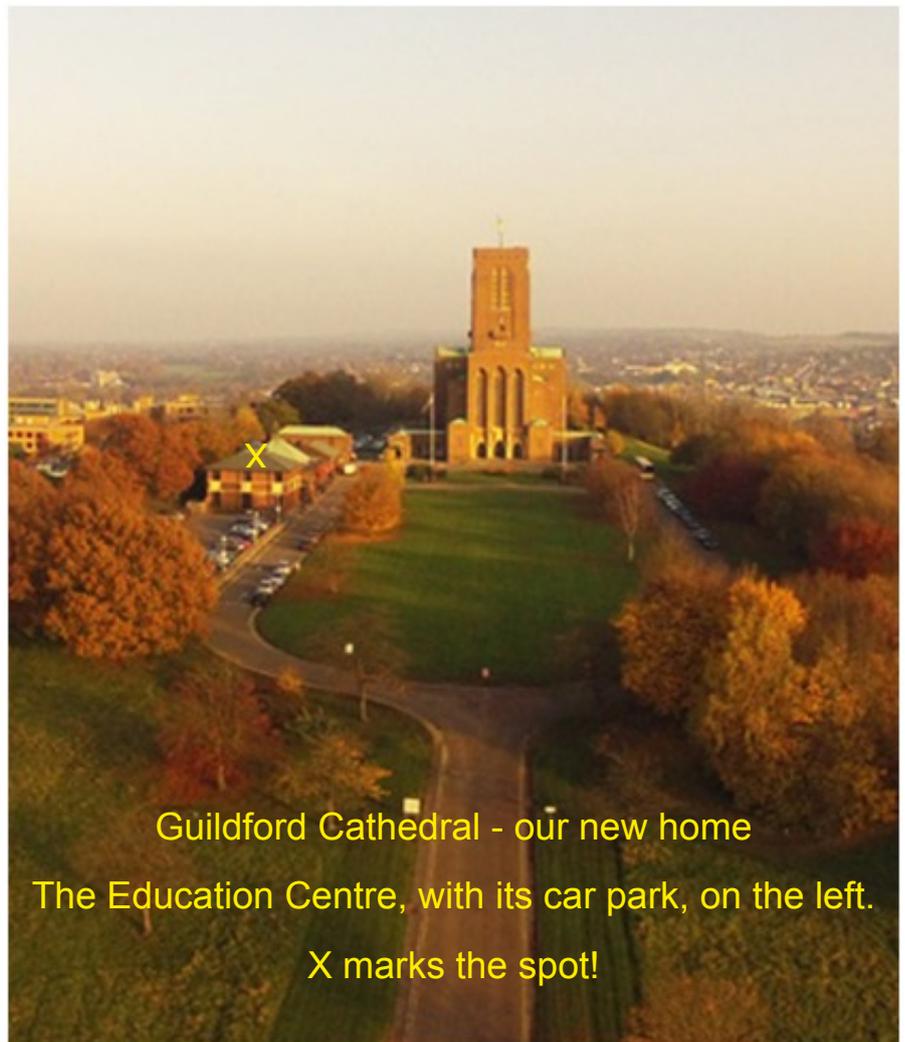
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Guildford Cathedral - our new home

The Education Centre, with its car park, on the left.

X marks the spot!

View from the Chair

Welcome to the first branch newsletter in an updated format. It's early days, but we hope by the time we've learned how to be publishers as well as everything else, you will enjoy the new look!

It coincides with some big changes in the life of this branch; our new name more accurately reflects the area in which we operate (see map below), and open meetings have moved from Cranleigh to Guildford Cathedral Education Centre, and will for now be held quarterly, in the afternoon. We hope that Cranleigh stalwarts will still find it possible to support us, and that new members will find our new venue easier to get to than the old. You will find details of how to get there on the back page.

Our first Guildford meeting will be on Wednesday 16th September at 2.00pm. One of our members, Lisa Milella, has kindly agreed to give us a talk on her experiences as a veterinary dental specialist working for International Animal Rescue (- as seen on TV!).

Lisa is living with MND, so this means a significant effort on her part. Please make it worthwhile by turning up to listen to what I'm sure will be a fascinating presentation.

Another of our members, Emma Mason, whose mother is living with MND, is running the Windsor Half Marathon for us on the 27th September. You can support her on:

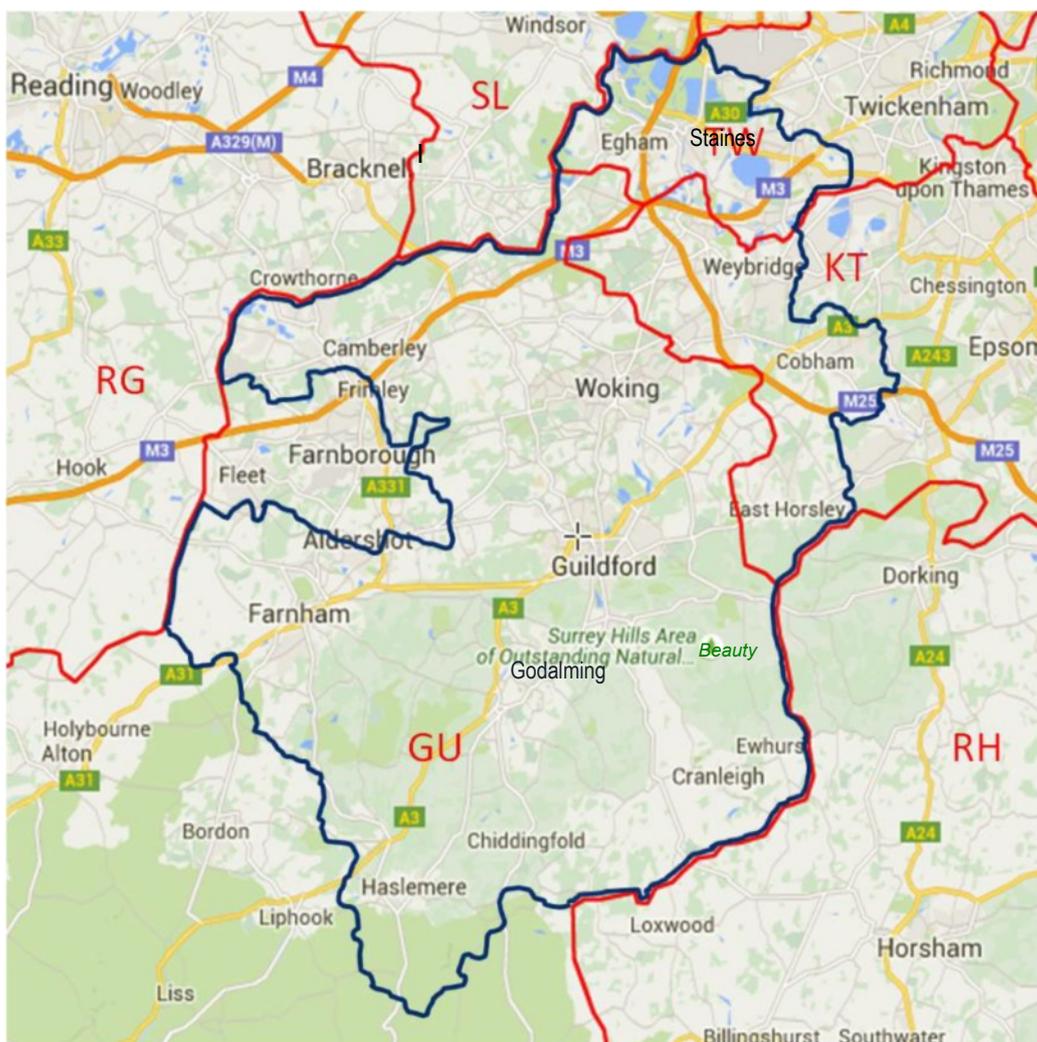
<https://www.justgiving.com/Emma-Mason11>

.. and spread the word amongst your friends!

Aside from all the changes, the fundamentals have of course not changed at all - MND is not yet defeated, so our job is still to raise money for research, and until that research finally consigns this cruel disease to medical history, we will continue to do everything we can to help those with MND in our area, and their families.

Best Wishes,

Bob



West Surrey Branch area of operations - 'Our Patch' !

News

Our summer season of street collections is over for another year, and this time we broke the £5000 barrier for the first time. Thanks to all who spent their Saturday mornings standing around on street corners with collecting boxes to raise this money!

Next year we'll be adding Staines to our target list, so hope to do even better.

We are very grateful to all those who run events to support us. Recently:

Richard Carter, who lost his father to MND, kindly ran another of his darts matches for us in Tongham Community Centre on 4th July, and raised a wonderful £500. Our thanks go to him and everyone who supported the event. MNDA lapel badges were particularly prized by the players!

Many thanks also to Scarlett Geen (£421.50 raised at her Wimbledon Ladies' Final Lunch), Kirstie Hopperton (£175.00 from her Car Boot Sale), Les Miller (£234.32 from Darts events), and Mike and Lyndsey Armitage (£247.50 from Rock'n'Roll Bingo at their pub, The Lion Brewery in Ash).

Thumbs Up Club winners

July:	A Hopwood (72)	£40.00
	K Newnham (179)	£30.00
	S Purchase (21)	£25.00
	A Streeter (189)	£20.00
August:	A Martin (42)	£40.00
	L Brewster (44)	£30.00
	D Lock (136)	£25.00
	S Rowley (194)	£20.00

If you would like to participate in the Thumbs Up Club, please contact Sallie on 01483 274337 for a share number form.

Each share is £12 per year by cheque payable to MNDA Cranleigh Thumbs Up Club, or by STO.

MND Charter campaign

Prime Minister David Cameron has issued a response following the handing in of 33,630 signatures of support for our MND Charter to 10 Downing Street. The Charter presentation took

place on 16th June after three years of campaigning.

In his response, the Prime Minister recognised the need for services to respond quickly to the rapidly changing needs of people living with MND, and the need for national guidance for professionals caring for people with the disease.

We were all delighted when the Government announced that a NICE guideline on MND would be developed, and the draft guideline is about to be published, on 1st September. Join the MNDA Campaign Network if you want to have a say in the final NICE guideline to ensure the best possible care for people with MND and their families.

This year's MNDA Christmas catalogue is now out, and the online shop opened on 3rd August. We haven't seen any Christmas decorations up round here yet, but it won't be long . . .

. . . . *and finally,*

Annabel Lotsu, who until recently was our Volunteer Development Co-ordinator, has given birth to a bouncing baby boy, Joshua, who weighed in at 7lb 2oz. We send our congratulations to Annabel and her family.

Research latest

Recent research in Germany has identified mutations in the TBK1 gene as a cause of both inherited MND and frontotemporal dementia.

Dr Brian Dickie, Director of Research Development, commented, 'The next step would be to find out whether this gene mutation is present in other populations, like the UK – as we know that this is not always the case – and to develop models to study TBK1 in detail'.

Coming up

Saturday 12th Sept: **MNDA National AGM**
Radisson Blu Hotel, East Midlands Airport

Sunday 27th Sept: **Windsor Half Marathon**
Emma Mason is running for us, and you can help her on:

<https://www.justgiving.com/Emma-Mason11>

Wednesday 16th Dec: **Branch Open Meeting**
Details on back page

Can you help?

We always need more Super-people to help us to improve what we do, especially with **fundraising**. (Anything legal considered!)

If you have ideas and energy, and want to make a difference to people with MND now and in the future, please get in touch with anyone on the 'Who's Who' list opposite.

Are you living with MND?

Informal 'Drop-in' meetings are held every month in the Cathedral Refectory, specifically for anyone with MND and their family. You are very welcome to come along to share your experiences, ups and downs, or just chat to friends over a cup of tea. First Wednesday of every month at 2.00pm.

Open Meetings

*All at Guildford Cathedral Education Centre,
2.00 to 4.00 pm*

Wednesday 16th September:

'Life before MND - International animal Rescue'
by Lisa Milella

Wednesday 16th December:

'Putting the Fun into Fundraising'
by Pam Fry (MNDA Regional Fundraiser)

plus . .

Christmas Nibbles and Wine

See you there!

How to find us

By car: Stag Hill, Guildford, GU2 7UP
Adequate free parking

By train: 10 min walk from Guildford Station

By bus: There are no public bus routes that come right up to the Cathedral; however, there are several routes that stop at the bottom of Stag Hill, leaving a 5 minute walk up the hill to the Cathedral. Get off at the top of The Chase.

Who's Who in West Surrey Branch

Chair:	Bob Hodgson	01483 893588
Vice Chair:	Mary Carr	01483 419774
Treasurer:	Alvin Hale	01252 310962
Secretary:	Joan Hornett	01252 325851
AV Co-ordinator:	Lucia Woodward	01428 643459
Membership Sec:	Alison Husaunndee	01483 723645
Branch Contact:	Joan Hornett	01252 325851

Please note:

Things change between newsletters!

You can keep in touch with news and events by keeping an eye on our digital accounts which are usually updated *every few days*:

website: <http://mndswsurrey.org.uk>

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MNDASWSURREY>

or twitter: https://twitter.com/MNDA_SWSurrey

National Office

MND Connect 03457 626262
(calls charged at same rate as
calling 01 or 02 number)

email: helpline@mndassociation.org

website: www.mndassociation.org

tel: 01604 250505