



NEWS

Barnsley & District Branch

January 2018

Clinical Nurse Specialist for Parkinson's, Carolyn Hodkin, replaced Sue Slater in the spring. It has been an eventful start; moving house, getting married and looking after her daughter after an accident.

We wish her happiness and welcome her to Barnsley. Carolyn writes for the newsletter; "My role as a student nurse was to work in neurology but my first post was as an acute stroke nurse progressing to a senior nurse in a community team helping to set up the early supported discharge team. I took up a vacancy to cover sickness leave in the Parkinson's service in Bury and have never looked back! I love the pace, complexity and variation in my role."

The service improvements Carolyn is looking at are:

- Setting up a community clinic
- A professional pathway for newly diagnosed patients

Specific areas for consideration are:

- Support needs and information required
- Local services information
- Professional services, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech language therapy.
- Carer services, local group support and Parkinson's UK helpline etc.

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

Gina and Mike Rae hosted a Christmas themed evening which raised over £1300. A choir sang carols and a raffle was held with many prizes including a mountain bike as a first prize.

Several people contributed to make the event successful, especially Gina who not only worked hard on the night but spent many hours in preparation - **thank you.**

Coffee, Cakes and Crafts

Dodworth Library "Knit and Natter" Club had a coffee morning organised by Gill Taylor and friends and raised £325 for the branch - **thank you.**



Christmas Party

Enjoyed by nearly 60 members.

Thank you to all who helped especially Ann- Marie who prepared a lovely buffet and to the Mayor elect, Steve Green who joined us on the dance floor.



CHAIR'S CHATTER

My contribution to this shortened edition must of necessity be brief (what a relief I hear you say).

Bob our newsletter designer/editor is in considerable discomfort and is unable to produce his quarterly masterpiece. Our thanks go to Sheila and Rona for quickly initiating plan B.

I hope you all had a happy Christmas and I take the opportunity to wish you a peaceful New Year. Sheila has put together a great programme for 2018, including what has become a firm favourite, two 10 pin bowling sessions.

Now, with a full complement of committee members we look forward to fresh ideas and an even better level of service to you our members and anyone in the borough who has or is affected by Parkinson's.

Happy New Year

Philip

DIARY DATES

16th January	Speech therapist Rachel Appleby
20th February	AGM
20th March	Andrew Foster SY Police speaking on "Fraud and Scams"
27th March	Carers' Day
17th April	Ian McMillan Entertains TBA

BEST FEET FORWARD - PLANS FOR 2018

Tuesday 24th April - Back to Locke Park.
Meeting in the car park at 10.30am, coffee in the park café.

Tuesday 29th May - Worsborough Reservoir.
Parking at Wigfield Farm with coffee there at the end.

Tuesday 26th June - Newmillerdam
Parking in the pay and display and coffee just across the road.

Details for July and August to follow.
New venues are being explored.

All walks will start at 10.30am, mostly flat on good paths and therefore wheelchair friendly.



USEFUL NUMBERS

Branch Secretary:

Doris Wragg
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Clinical Nurse Specialist for Parkinson's:

Carolyn Hodkin
Tel: 01226 645180

Parkinson's Local Advisor:

Sharon Gray
Tel: 0344 2253637

Welfare Rights Officer:

Jacqui Goodridge
Tel: 01226 772527 (state you are from Parkinson's)

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