

## NEWS

Barnsley & District Branch

April 2025



### Your Committee for 2025

(From left to right)

George Spencer - Honorary Member, Doris Wragg - Secretary,  
Nishadi Perera - Assistant Treasurer, Terry Kendall - Chair,  
Alyson Francis - Events Organiser, Anne Marie Sephton - Deputy Chair  
& Membership Secretary, Kathie Sharman - Treasurer,  
Ken Booth (not shown) - Webmaster



# Chair's Chatter

Welcome to another edition of Chair's Chatter! I've got some exciting updates to share with you that will hopefully bring a smile to your face. In February, we had our AGM. We bid a fond farewell to one of our founder members, Philip Thompson, who decided to resign from the committee after an impressive 22 years of service in various roles - from committee member to chairman to fundraiser. To show our appreciation for his dedication, we presented Philip with a delightful food hamper full of goodies for him and Rona to enjoy. Worry not though! Philip will still continue to support our activities and attend branch meetings.

Some of you may remember Mick Broad who came to talk to us about Patients As Educators in 2023. Recently Mick has been taking part in a trial, in conjunction with Manchester's Royal Northern College of Music, to show how music can help people living with Parkinson's. Mick worked with a composer and had a piece of music, dedicated to him, performed in front of a sell-out crowd.

In other exciting news, Parkinson's UK has completely refreshed its branding. We now have a new logo in the form of a tulip. It's a beautiful symbol of the enduring legacy and continual growth in our understanding and support of those with Parkinson's.

We have continued our fruitful meetings with the senior clinical staff at Barnsley Hospital to stay updated on their fantastic progress in rolling out the "Get It On Time" campaign. A snazzy two-minute video has been launched across the hospital to raise staff awareness about the importance of ensuring people with Parkinson's get their medication on time. On two of the wards, a dedicated nurse has been appointed to take responsibility for the care of those with Parkinson's, and medical staff are encouraging capable patients to self-medicate. I'm sure this will be music to many ears! We're also in talks to have an awareness stand for a day in the hospital restaurant to further educate staff about the importance of "Get It On Time".

A special highlight recently was the visit from Caroline Russell, the Chief Executive of Parkinson's UK. During her visit, Caroline complimented our branch on its overall efficiency and the wide range of activities we offer to keep people with Parkinson's active and improve their social well-being. It's always rewarding to receive such positive feedback.

That's all for now and keep smiling!

**Best Wishes, Terry**



## Coming Up...

5th Apr	Awareness stand and collection at Tesco, Stairfoot
10th Apr	Natter Café, Falco Lounge (10:30am -12 noon)
10th Apr	Awareness stand in Barnsley town centre - World Parkinson's Day
15th Apr	Branch meeting - Speaker Ian McMillan, our President
24th Apr	Aly's Amble - Wentworth Woodhouse (10:30am start)
20th May	Branch meeting - Speaker Tracy Hughes (Healthwatch Barnsley)
22nd May	Aly's Amble - Cannon Hall (10:30am start, main car park)
31st May	Fundraising coffee morning at Staincross Methodist Church
8th June	Plant sale at Locke Park Classic Car Event
19th June	Annual outing - The Workhouse, Southwell (National Trust property)
26th June	Aly's Amble - Hemsworth Water Park (10:30am start)

## Obituaries

Judith White

Our thoughts are with Joe and the rest of their family and friends.

## Augmented Reality Glasses Experience

At the end of February, we had a delightful session involving eight of our members, who bravely ventured into the world of Augmented Reality Glasses. The afternoon was a roaring success, with an overall satisfaction rating of 73%. We couldn't have done it without the incredible support of two physios from the Hallamshire clinic and an occupational therapist from Strolll. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and most participants expressed interest in a repeat performance, either in their homes or as another group activity. It seems our members are quite the tech-savvy bunch!

## Recent Donations

£485.00 in memory of Judith White.  
£303.20 in memory of Keith Thomas.

Highest & lowest scorers at our  
March ten-pin bowling event.



## Plants Needed!

Calling all green-fingered types!  
We will be holding a plant sale again at Locke Park on Sunday 8th June. Please help in any way you can - either by donating plants or helping on the stall.

## Staincross Coffee Morning

On Saturday 31st May we will be raising funds at a coffee morning to be held at Staincross Methodist Church. We cannot do this without your help! Could you bake some delicious cakes for us to sell? Or do you have any unwanted gifts you would like to donate for our tombola? We also need volunteers to man the stalls, if you are able to spare a few hours. Any help will be gratefully received!

## What Happens When?

<b>Branch Meetings</b>	3rd Tuesday of the month, 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Emmanuel Church.
<b>Exercise Classes</b>	Weekly on Wednesdays, 1:00pm to 2:00pm and 2:30pm to 3:30pm. 2:00pm to 2:30pm is time for a drink and a chat. Emmanuel Church.
<b>Boxing Classes</b>	Weekly on Fridays, 11:00am to 11:45am. Afterwards time for a drink and a chat. Wentworth Community Hall.
<b>Golf Driving</b>	1st Tuesday of the month, 11am. Sandhill Golf Club
<b>Natter Cafés</b>	2nd Thursday of the month at the Falco Lounge in Barnsley Town Centre. Drop in between 10:30am and 12:00 noon.

## BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT BRANCH

### Branch President

Ian McMillan

### Branch Chair

Terry Kendall 07515 051075

### Branch Secretary

Doris Wragg 01226 744670

### Nurse Specialist for Parkinson's

Carolyn Turton 01226 645180

### Parkinson's Local Adviser

Susan Martin 0344 2253635

### Membership Secretary

Ann Marie Sephton 01226 384936

### Events Organiser

Alyson Francis 01709 896355  
07805 521770

Many thanks to the contributors to this issue.  
Future items should be sent to:-  
[maxinemellor@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maxinemellor@yahoo.co.uk)

## Parkinson's UK

**We're the Parkinson's support and research charity. Help us find a cure and improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's.**

Free confidential helpline:  
0800 800 0303

Interpreting available:  
0800 111 4204

Visit us online at [parkinsons.org.uk](http://parkinsons.org.uk)

A charity registered in England and Wales (258197) and in Scotland (SC037554).

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