



December 2008

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AYLESBURY & DISTRICT VOLUNTARY GROUP NEWSLETTER

The final newsletter of the year! The Committee wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a wonderful New Year and hope you will continue to support us through 2009.

NEW FACES

Following my report in the last newsletter I am pleased to announce that John Housego (my husband) has agreed to take over the Membership Secretary's role from the start of 2009. You may find that your renewal letters are now addressed to him instead of Chris Arnold. We are very pleased to announce that Chris has agreed to stay with us as treasurer for another year now that the other job has been lifted from his shoulders. Lesley Richardson has already started contacting local stores to organize future collections for us. The committee would like to extend their thanks to these people and hope that the group will continue to be a real presence throughout Aylesbury and District.

CHARITY STALL

We ran a successful stall in the Market Square, Aylesbury on Friday 7th November. The general public showed interest in the cards and goodies and over £230 was raised including donations. It was also interesting to have a chance to talk to members of the public about diabetes and to spread the word about the group. We hope to arrange to use the stall again in the spring. Look out for photos on the website.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 4th December— Christmas Social. This will be our usual informal get together with cheese and wine and a quiz. 8pm at Diabetes Centre. It is always a good opportunity to meet and chat with friends over a social drink. There will be a chance to buy last minute Christmas cards and goodies and there is usually a good raffle. Please try to attend. *NB. It is very likely that this will be the last meeting which will be held at the Diabetes Centre. There will be a room in the new building allocated for use of various groups and we hope that future meetings will be held here. We still do not have information about how our use of this room would work but will bring it to you as soon as we have something to report. Why not attend the social and hear the latest! If transport is a problem, please let us know and we will do our best to get you there.*

Thursday 5th February 2009— Our AGM followed by cheese and wine. Please try to attend. We hope that this will be held in the new building at the hospital—to be known as "The Blue Building". We have not yet been informed of a specific location within the building but will make sure that someone is outside the building to direct you.

PASSING OF JIM DIGWEED

It is with regret that we announce the death of Jim, our past chairman, who died following a few weeks in hospital. Several of the present committee and friends from the branch were able to be with his wife Mary and his son and daughter at the funeral and other old friends of Jim from the early days of the branch were also there.

Jim was a long-standing member of the branch and became Chairman in 1997. He retired in 2003 but always attended our meetings whenever he could until his present illness. He was a committee member from 1994 but throughout all his membership, from many years before that, he was a hard worker and with his wife Mary took a leading part in various activities and fund raising. His efforts in helping run the branch led to many successes and achievements of Diabetes UK and he will be missed by all of us. Our sincere condolences to Mary and his family.

(This was kindly written on the committee's behalf by Bob Reece)

PRIZE DRAW

Prior to the last committee meeting we were fortunate enough to be joined by Sister Mary Harding , who had agreed to draw the prize winning tickets for us. A huge thank you to all who took part in the prize draw— we made over £600 profit on this. The committee will decide at the next meeting how the monies we have raised should be distributed. If you have any ideas that you would like us to consider then please get in touch with someone on the committee. The prizewinners are listed below.

Ticket No	Prize	Name	Ticket No	Prize	Name
002764	£500	Mrs Spires	001528	Gift Vouchers	T. Becker
002538	£250	Mr Gibson	000157	Brewery tour	Beato
003542	£150	S. Evans	001332	DVD Player	I Housego
001169	Balloon Flight	P. Pauley	000197	Champagne	Mrs Lake
000558	Exercise equipmnt	H. Kirkman	000800	Beauty Set	S. Chamberlain
002443	Gift Vouchers	B. Reece	002928	Perfume Set	Mr Frankum
000006	Gift Vouchers	J Brine	001523	Gift Voucher	L.Becker
			002885	Gift Voucher	Mr & Mrs Gill

We would also like to extend our grateful thanks to those companies and individuals who donated prizes including Champagne Flights, Lloyds Chemist, No1Wendover, Marks & Spencers, Beatties and the Chiltern Brewery.

THANK YOU!

It is customary at this time of year to thank those who have helped and this year is no exception.

On behalf of the membership I would like to thank **the committee** for their continuing hard work throughout the year. Being on any committee can often be a thankless task, yet they continue to work on our behalf to raise funds for Diabetes UK.

The committee would like to thank **the members** for continuing to support them. We were very pleasantly surprised by the support you gave us for the prize draw—without your efforts this would not have been as successful.

Finally we would once again like to thank **Driftgate Press** who continue to print off the paper copies of this newsletter and other documents for us. Their continued support has been invaluable and the service we receive from them has been exemplary. Thank you all.

AND FINALLY

Can you help out with the Aylesbury Round Table Carol float this year? They have asked us to help them on Friday 19th December in the Broughton Ave area. The float will be opposite the school at 6pm. Please note that it does involve door to door collecting and quite a lot of walking. Please let Ken Parker know if you can help.

AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Thursday 5th February— in the Blue Building. The whole committee resigns at the end of each year but can be re-elected. Please use the form below to nominate anyone whom you think would like to serve on the committee. Anyone nominated will have to agree to the nomination . You are free to nominate anyone, whether they are members of the group or not. All nominations must be seconded by another member. Please give or send nominations to the secretary, David Robbins.

Nomination form for Aylesbury and District Voluntary Group Committee for 2009

I (name)..... being a member of the Aylesbury branch nominate to serve on the Branch Committee.

I (print name)am willing to serve on the Branch Committee.
(Signature)

I (print name).....second the nomination.
(Signature)