



GUILDFORD AND SOUTH WEST
SURREY VOLUNTARY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

July 2003

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FROM THE CHAIR

Firstly thanks to Julie for producing the newsletter. That leads me on to my two themes for this newsletter, namely:

COMMUNICATION

Firstly the newsletter, whilst addressed primarily to our current members, is also a way of communicating to potential members who we are and what we get up to.

EFFORT

The newsletter does not appear out of thin air; it takes effort to assemble the articles and get it published.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Communication - There are somewhere in the region of 15,000 diabetics in our area, clearly we could not rent a football stadium each time to host a meeting! But we should be trying to be in touch with as many people as possible. We have a newsletter, a web site on the way (more of that in the future), but the best way is good old "word of mouth". Whenever you are in contact with fellow

diabetics socially or at clinics, please let them know who we are and what we can do for them. Julie can provide spare copies of the newsletter for friends and GP surgeries etc. Please give me a call if you have any other communications ideas.

Effort – the branch is not just about the sterling efforts of the committee. I would like everyone in the branch as far as possible to make one special effort during the year. The most obvious time to make one is at a collection time. We have a major Street Collection in Guildford on 2nd August and I urge you to give Geoff Woolley a call.

Enough from me! Enjoy the summer!

Brian

Urgent message

There will be a street collection in Guildford High Street on 2nd August.

If you would like to help — and help would be much appreciated — please contact Geoff Woolley on 01483 8284999.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of every other month at Dray Court, The Chase, Guildford. Coffee and tea are available from 7.30pm and the meeting starts at 8pm.

Dray Court is near the Cathedral and ten minutes walk from Guildford Station.

If you come by car, there is free parking in the surrounding streets but not in Dray Court itself. If you come by train, leave the station by the University exit and turn right along Madrid Road. Dray Court is on the right at the junction of Madrid Road and the Chase.

Please send items for inclusion to:

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email
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by the 30th of August
2003.*

LOCAL INFLUENCE - LDSAG

It has been agreed recently that the LDSAG (Local Diabetes Service Advisory Group) is to become the information source on diabetes for the Primary Care Trust which is great news.

The Group has been running in this area now for six or seven years and Pat Millar is the chair.

Other members include David Russell-Jones, Jackie Patterson, Joy Davies, Chief Dietician and several GPs and members of the Trust.

Contact Pat for further details.

SUB GROUPS

The Guildford Group has two sub groups—the Self Help Group and the Parents Support Group.

The Self Help Group is an informal discussion group run by Daphne Millar and meets on alternate months on the 1st Monday of the month between Group meetings. Contact Daphne on 01483 560581.

The Parents Support Group meets informally several times a year in people's homes. If you are a parent of a child with diabetes this group could help you. For more information, contact Christina Pearce on her work number on 01483 276121.

MEETINGS

Next meeting

4th August 2003

Open Forum

An opportunity to air your views and pick up tips from other people

Led by Pat Millar

Future meetings

6th October 2003

Chiropody and diabetes

Timothy Noyce

2nd December 2003

Xmas Social plus a talk by

Di Walker of Medisense

Glucose Monitoring

2nd February

Diabetes and your eyes

*Dr Shirley Hampson, Eye
Clinic, Royal Surrey Hospital*

Another date for your diary

Diabetes UK will be running a 'Living with Diabetes' one day conference in London on 4th October.

This is one of a series and the only one planned at present in our neck of the woods.

For further information phone Ruth Taylor on 0207 424 1157 or email ruth.taylor@diabetes.org.uk