

MS Society of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – Foyle Branch

46th Annual General Meeting

Tues.16th 2007 – 3pm in Foyle Disability Resource Centre.

Apologies: Madeline O'Callaghan, Pat Brown.

Peter welcomed everyone. He said numbers were down and although the Society had a difficult year, Foyle branch would carry on. Peter thanked Terry for his dedication and good work.

Development Officer's Report: Terry dealt with 3876 enquiries since May 2006. Foyle branch continued to provide support for people affected by MS. 23 new members joined the branch since last AGM. Our membership now stands at 194. The Carer's Forum continued to meet. Media coverage of the branch has been very positive. Terry was invited to lunch with Mary McAleese, with other community leaders. He was able to discuss the work of our branch. Fundraising was excellent over the past year. Sandra Robinson raised £3771, which was divided between our branch and Friends of Spruce. Naomi O'Loughlin and friends raised £3201 from doing sky-dives. Terry thanked all volunteers of the branch for their dedication and support. The branch wouldn't be what it is today without them.

Treasurer's report: Finances very good. Damien said it was important to thank fundraisers. This money is being spent on the welfare of members. See Damien's report.

Support Officer's Report: Moira said services continued with good support from members. Yoga, Tai Chi and Exercise classes were popular. Thursday Support group continues with good turnout. Branch

Quiz was held in Waterfoot Hotel. We are looking for a new venue as hotel has closed.

Transport: Our bus has been busy over the year with the Tuesday club enjoying their summer outings and weekly visits to FDRC in the winter. Our volunteer drivers have once again done us proud. The bus has been used to transport members going on respite and for moving equipment.

MS Nurse's Report: Fiona and Carol said they were pleased to be at the meeting and that the MS nurse service had come a long way. Fiona said Carol has been a great help, and meeting members at outpatients clinic allowed them to get to know everyone. Home visitations were a great help in understanding personal problems. Fiona hoped all members were happy with the service she and Carol provide.

Any other Business: Peter thanked Fred for his supervision of office-bearers and welcomed Tony O'Reilly onto committee.

Closing remarks: Peter thanked everyone for coming to meeting. He also thanked committee members. Eunan, Willie and Cecil and the ladies who provide the tea and refreshments all year round were thanked for their kindness and support. Peter especially thanked Terry for his outstanding work for the branch. He said all hiccups with the Society would be forgotten this time next year and Foyle branch was in a very strong position.