



GUILDFORD AND SOUTH WEST
SURREY VOLUNTARY GROUP
NEWSLETTER

March
2004

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NEWS OF CEDAR

There's bad news—the builders went bankrupt. There's good news—they had completed the foundations. Building work has now started again, the costs remaining as originally agreed. The hope is that the building will be completed in September and opened in October.

More good news—the Wolfson Foundation has given a research grant of £500,000 to the University of Surrey for transitional medicine, which together with the CEDAR research unit will make a world class research facility. Come to our April meeting to find out more from Professor Russell-Jones.

NSF CARDS

Cards have been produced as a reminder of what the NSF (National Service Framework) for England should be doing for you. They fold down to credit card size so that you can keep them handy. Contact Peter McKeown or Raj Nijjar in the Diabetes Campaigners Network team to get a card or to get advice on what you can do if you are not getting the appropriate healthcare. Telephone 020 7424 1122/1123 or email dcn@diabetes.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Anyone mad enough to run the London Marathon to raise funds to help cure diabetes gets my support!
On Sunday 18th April, Davy Worsfold

will be running the London Marathon for the first time to raise funds for research into Type One diabetes. Davy is keen to raise as much as possible; he wants to support something which helps children, he has friends who are diabetic and he is a member of the Lions who support diabetes (they recently gave money to the Cedar Appeal).

So please send any donation, however small, payable to "JDRF" (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) at Ahlhorn, Upfold Lane, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8PD. As Davy says, "I'll do the hard work – yours is the easy part. Just write out a cheque, sit back and enjoy the spectacle on TV!"

Please give him your help.

Brian Davey

P.S. If anyone knows of any other runners raising funds for diabetes, please let us know.

HEALTH SECRETARY'S VISION

On Thursday 11th March Health Secretary, John Reid, set out his vision for people with diabetes and other long term conditions. Under these plans specialist teams will be set up across the country. The aim is to cut GP and hospital visits, especially hospital admissions, and provide systematic care directly to those with the condition. The scheme is based on a US programme that has improved services there.

More information can be found on the Dept. of Health website:

www.dh.gov.uk

Meetings are held on the first Monday of every other month at Dray Court, The Chase, Guildford. Coffee and tea are available from 7pm and the meeting starts at 7.30pm. (These timings have changed recently.)

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.

Got email? Send me an email and you can have this Newsletter that way and save us lots of postage!

Please send items for the next issue by the 30th of April 2004 to:

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Wheeler Lane
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01428 683448 or
email
julie.grist@lineone.net

PLACES AVAILABLE FOR EXPERT PATIENT

The next course will be run every Tuesday for six weeks—20th April to 25th May from 1.30pm to 4.00pm at the United Reformed Church, Farnham.

It really can help you manage your diabetes, gives you time to focus on it and an opportunity to meet other people all trying to manage chronic illness. And, almost as important, if these courses are not supported the whole programme could be in jeopardy and that would be a great shame.

To book a place or for more information, please contact Donna Gomez or Alison Ballerino, Guildford and Waverley PCT 01483 783100 or 01483 783252.

CAN YOU HELP-1?

We'll be doing a street collection in Godalming on 22nd May. If you would like to rattle a tin, please ring Geoff on 01483 828499

CAN YOU HELP-2?

St John's Church Fair is on 1st May at the Burys, Godalming and we're running our tombola stall as usual.

Have you anything you could give us for a prize—things you wish you hadn't bought or didn't need, unwanted gifts?

Could you help us staff the stall—the fair is open from 12pm-4pm but we need people to help us set it up as well—so if you have an odd hour anytime between 10am and 4pm we'd be very grateful. (*In particular if you know of a 12 year old to help us put up the gazebo!*) Please ring Hazel on 01483 566012

WIN A BOTTLE OF WINE!

If you've got a good idea for a topic for one of our meetings and it is taken forward by the committee the Chairman has rashly said he will donate a bottle of wine. Any ideas to Hazel Barnby on 01483 566012.

MEETINGS

Next meeting

Monday, 5th April 2004

An update from our President, Professor David Russell-Jones. Plus the AGM.

Stop Press

The meeting will start at 7.30pm, with coffee or tea available from 7pm. Please note that we now need to leave Dray Court by 9.30pm because they have new security arrangements.

Future meetings

Monday, 7th June 2004

Topic to be announced

Monday, 2nd August 2004

Open Forum led by Pat Millar

Monday, 4th October 2004

Topic to be announced

Monday, 6th December 2004

Special event

The quiz this year will be at East Grinstead on 29th June. More details in the next issue.