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# InforMS Borders

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The Newsletter for the Borders Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society

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Issue 41

September 2008

## A Shining Star in our midst!

Anne Campbell has worked tirelessly for the MS Society for almost 60 years. She was only 4 years old when her mother was diagnosed with MS (known in those days as Disseminated Sclerosis). Her parents together with her mother's neurologist and a family friend founded the MS Society in Northern Ireland. That was the start of Anne's dedication to the Society. She worked for the Ballymoney branch until she moved to the Borders 23 years ago. Her enthusiasm is an inspiration to the Committee. Her help and understanding to those newly diagnosed with MS is so uplifting and helpful and she is constantly visiting and checking up not only new but existing members to ensure that they have everything they need. That cheery Irish voice is a tonic in itself. Anne has a charisma, which no one can fail to recognise. She is compassionate, helpful and honest. The major fundraising event at the Borders General Hospital started 11 years ago. It is a sell out before it has even started with people queuing to buy baking, crafts, flowers and of course Anne's tablet. It would be impossible to guess how many tons of tablet Anne has made over the years, not to mention

the jams, marmalades and cakes - the chocolate one is to die for! It is not only the tablet etc that takes so much time but the actual organisation - enlisting help organising rotas, it is all down to Anne. Eleven years ago the sale raised £300.00, last year it raised £5,000.00 - I think that says it all.



We are so proud to know Anne and love her to bits, Anne is a very special person and we are so proud that she received her Shining Star Award - she will always be a "Star" to the Borders Branch.

However, I think Anne would also appreciate if we mentioned her lovely husband Shaun. He has supported Anne in her work for the Society through all the years they have been married and has also done so much, albeit maybe not known, for the Society. They are both wonderful people and the Borders Branch is extremely lucky to have them.

**WELL DONE BOTH OF YOU!**

### CHRISTMAS SHOP - Yes, It's that time of year again!

Our Christmas Shop - now in its 11th year - starts on Monday October 6th until Sunday, October 12th. Times and rotas will be the same as last year, starting at 10.00am each morning with the exception of Saturday and Sunday which starts at 12.30pm. The first rota of two persons will man the shop from 10.00am - 12.30pm. Second rota 12.30pm - 3.00pm and the last rota from 3.00pm - 5.30pm.

Once again we are appealing for volunteers and donations of home baking and craft work. Anyone providing a donation - ingredients and materials will be reimbursed. To help, or for further details please contact Anne Campbell - tel 01835 822174.

This is an excellent opportunity - not only to make a vast amount of money but also to raise the awareness of MS as we are sited in the front vestibule of the Hospital.



Multiple Sclerosis Society  
Scotland

## UPDATE ON MS SPECIALIST NURSE POST

I would like to thank everyone who signed the petition for an MS Nurse in the Borders and because of everyone's campaigning we have now had partial success with this post.

The BGH have committed to a dedicated part-time MS Nurse post which will be for three and a half days per week. This has not yet been advertised but we have been promised that someone will be in post by the beginning of October.

For the last couple of years Lorna Rogerson has been in post as MS Community Co-ordinator, her remit being to scope out what was needed within the Borders. She undertook a review which highlighted the lack of services for people with MS within the Borders. This review has helped in obtaining a commitment from BGH to fund a specialist MS nurse post. This post will differ from the present Community Co-ordinator post in as much that it will have more emphasis on the nursing element.

We are also delighted to hear that a Neurologist will be in post by October this year.. if not sooner. We will continue however to campaign for a full – time post.

Judy Eglington [Vice-chair]



### THE PEDAL FOR SCOTLAND BICYCLE RUN ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14th 2008

The above event sees members of the Wheatley family from Earlston and Melrose taking part in this 55 mile cycle run from Glasgow to Edinburgh. They've aptly called themselves "*The Black Hill Mob*" and are taking part to raise funds on behalf of the Borders MS Branch. The finishing line is in Victoria Park, Edinburgh and they're hoping for a good tail wind and a dry day. We wish them well!

It is with much regret that we record the two following deaths;

*Martin Wylie who sadly died aged 20 years. Martin was the only son of Christine and Graham.*

*Fergus Tosh - a longstanding member of the Branch who lived in St Boswells.*

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to both families.

### BRANCH TRANSPORT

Your branch has a renault kangoo adapted for a wheelchair and one to two passengers, available to members.

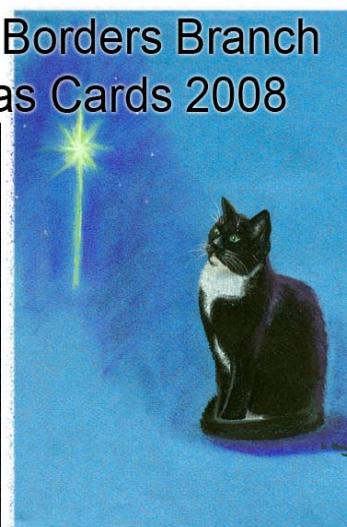
If you would like to make use of the transport then please call Anne on  
01835 822174

# BORDERS BRANCH CHRISTMAS CARDS

Yes, we've all had a moan about the MS Christmas Cards in the catalogue, haven't we? so one of our members had an idea to create our own cards this year where all the profits go to our branch. Sandra Hay also arranged for a card competition to take place at Melrose School in two age groups, with the overall winner receiving 5 packs of the winning design Christmas cards. The winner in each class also received an artist gift set with pencils and paints. Anne Campbell and Sandra judged the entries during the last week of the summer term and Alex Duguid, aged 6, won with a really stunning snowman design.



**MS** Borders Branch  
Christmas Cards 2008



The other 3 designs are by Sandra herself and if it is successful then next year she would like other members to contribute work.

The Borders Branch Christmas Cards will be on sale at the BGH Stall from the 6th—12th October and are available from your committee members. So please support the branch this Christmas..The cards come in packs of five and are priced as follows;  
1 pack £2.99, 2 packs £5.00 and the real bargain 5 packs for £10.00.

## CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE

BRANCH CODE: 368 ETD

Please note there has been a change in the way we order from the Christmas catalogue this year. You can now order direct either by 'phone, post or on-line and if your order is over £25.00 there is free post and packing.

However, the main change is that we have to pay when we order and **MUST** use the above code to enable the Borders Branch to receive 25% of all good ordered.

If you have any queries or require help with your order please phone Anne Campbell on 01835 822174

**Kelso Art Group's  
Yetholm Art Exhibition**  
IN AID OF  
**MS SOCIETY SCOTLAND  
BORDERS BRANCH**

IN  
YETHOLM YOUTH HALL  
(Next to Butcher's Shop)

Commencing  
FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER, 7PM – 9PM  
Saturday 6th Oct 10am – 5pm  
Sunday – Friday 10am – 5pm  
Saturday 11th Oct 10am - 3pm  
Coffee and Tea Available



# FUND RAISING EVENTS - SUMMER UPDATE

Thankfully our summer fund raising took place at the beginning of the summer when we could enjoy a little sunshine..

Back in May we held another successful Quiz Night with the Borders MS Racing Club at Kelso Racecourse. After a lovely meal there was a challenging quiz with an interlude for the Auction which again, this year, raised a superb amount. Many thanks to all who supported this event which raised £7789.14 for our branch. Many thanks to Rhona Elliot for her excellent organisation. Sunday 8th June was the 5th MS Borders Fun Run in Melrose where over 400 people took part in this annual event sponsored by JS Crawford. Sponsorship money and a raffle held on the day raised over £7000. Many thanks to everyone who helped out and those who undertook the 3 mile loop around Melrose, whether they ran, walked or had wheels! We hope you all enjoyed it.

Another successful fundraiser was the Plant Sale in Melrose where a special thanks has to go to Kenny and Sandra Hay for all the beautiful baskets which they made up - these are very popular and almost sell out before the day of the sale! Thank you for all your hard work. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who has thought of us when raising money for charity and to all our volunteers who turn out regularly to help out at events - it is very much appreciated. Fund raising is a very important part of our branch as we help so many people in the Borders who are affected by Multiple Sclerosis. So thank you very much for supporting the Borders Branch of the MS Society!

**Our congratulations to Merci and Abe on the birth of their second daughter, Faith. They are both well and we send them our good wishes.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Jedburgh Flag Day The Jedburgh Flag Day will take place on 26th September.  
BGH CHRISTMAS SHOP runs from; 6th—12th October 2008 in the foyer of the hospital.  
**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

By popular request we are holding the Christmas lunch once again at the Woll, Ashkirk on Sunday, December 7th at 12.30pm. Bookings can be made to Wilma - tel 01896 823354 or email - [wilmagraham@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wilmagraham@tiscali.co.uk)

## The Borders Branch of the MS Society - CONTACTS

Darrin Pope, Co-chairman	01896 758499 - Email <a href="mailto:rygel@tiscali.co.uk">rygel@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Trish Paterson, Co-chairman	01896 755477 - Email <a href="mailto:peegeetm@yahoo.co.uk">peegeetm@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Judy Eglinton, Vice Chairman	01573 420576 - Email <a href="mailto:judy.eglington@googlemail.com">judy.eglington@googlemail.com</a>
Judy Allott, Treasurer	01450 870591 - Email <a href="mailto:judy.allott@btinternet.com">judy.allott@btinternet.com</a>
Wilma Graham, Secretary	01896 823354 - Email <a href="mailto:wilmagraham@tiscali.co.uk">wilmagraham@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Anne Campbell, President	01835 822174 - Email <a href="mailto:shaun.anne@tiscali.co.uk">shaun.anne@tiscali.co.uk</a>

This is your newsletter, if you have anything which you would like to be included then please get in touch and we will print all relevant information. Send to Jane Currie, The Shambles, Ashloaning, Denholm, Hawick, TD9 8NW or email: [jane@msborders.org.uk](mailto:jane@msborders.org.uk)

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