

COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE SUPPORT GROUP NEWSLETTER

September 2012



Welcome to newsletter #7!

Our latest meeting – held on Sunday 9th September 2012 at Exhall Old School Community Centre



There were a smaller than usual group of 11 at the meeting, including Catherine (CA) and her husband Paul, Kieran (FA) and his mum, dad and nan, Neil (FA) and his step-dad Steven, Matt (FA) and his PA Paul and me (FA)! As it is holiday season I will let people who usually come but were otherwise-engaged off – you were missed though!!

One of our newest members Neil was asking me about my upcoming trip to Florida when he came to the pub lunch in August (see below). I emailed him shortly afterwards with details of the adapted villa I'm staying in (<http://www.graingevillafloida.com/>). When I saw him at the meeting my first question was about his Florida plans. I was totally taken aback when he told me it was all booked – said villa too – for December this year!!

As Neil has Scoliosis and is flying with Virgin Atlantic, he is going to use their special Burnett Body Support seating to help him sit comfortably during the flight – see <http://www.virgin-atlantic.com/gb/en/travel-information/special-assistance/mobility-impaired/support-seating.html>.

We all had a great afternoon – it was lovely seeing you all!

Pub lunch – held on Saturday 25th August 2012 at Mount Pleasant – Hungry Horse

Following the success of the last pub lunch in April, we held another one in August which was as brilliant! The menu is a collection of pub favourites and scampi and chips, gammon eggs and chips and hamburger and chips were popular choices – all costing around £5 - £7.



Lorraine (CA) and her son-in-law Robin, Catherine (CA) and her husband Paul, Neil (FA) and his step-dad Steven, my aunty Monica and I (FA) came along and we all had a really nice afternoon – see the picture above. I think I share my hearing difficulties when there's lots of background noise with the majority of other people with ataxia. I always bear this in mind when booking the table and as such I always ask for one that's out of the way of the main hustle and bustle of the pub. This worked so well we were busy chatting 3.5 hours later!!

Money

Money wise the group now has £54 in the pot after spending £14 on hiring the room for our last meeting.

So that we can keep this money exclusively for room hire (we have enough for about 4 more meetings), I'm going to ask everyone who comes to meetings in future to bring with them £1 towards the cost of refreshments.

Our next meeting

**Sunday 4th November 2012 at 2 – 4pm
Exhall Old School Community Centre,
Exhall Green, Exhall CV7 9GL**

Please put this date in your diaries now – it would be great to see you there! The community Centre is off School Lane in Bedworth. Type the post code into Google for a map (see enclosed map if you received this newsletter in the post). Buses 20 and 48 go here – get off at the Baylon Road stop.

Christmas dinner

Following the success of the last pub lunch in August, we booked a table there and then for Christmas dinner at Mount Pleasant – Hungry Horse, Hinckley Road, Walsgrave, Coventry CV2 2EU on **Saturday 8th December at 2pm.**

All 8 of us present on the day booked a place and I've since made a further 10 bookings – that's 18 in total so far!! If you would like to join us, please let me know your food selections from the menu attached/enclosed and get your £5 deposit to me – either by hand or cheque.

There is room for wheelchairs, disabled facilities and the pub know us by now and know that there will be a number of wheelchair users in our party.

I'd welcome any suggestions of anything specific you'd like to see in future newsletters and meetings – please get in touch! I hope to see as many of you as possible at the pub lunch on 25th August and/or our next meeting on 4th November!

Who I am and how to contact me:

I am Katie Henderson (you can find out more about me at <http://ohbother.co.uk>) and I am the named contact for the group. You can contact me by e-mailing katie@ohbother.co.uk or phoning 07565 247 183. I am also on Facebook and so is the group; search for "Ataxia UK Coventry". For news on group events and to download previous newsletters etc visit <http://ataxiacoventry.co.uk/>.