MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY SUTTON COLDFIELD & DISTRICT BRANCH

Multiple Sclerosis Society
Charity No. 207495

MiScellany

AUGUST 2006

Frank and Hazel Kemp
CONGRATULATIONS
50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



More details on page 4

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If you have any comments about this or any other publication of MiScellany or wish to put in articles or items please don't hesitate to contact the Editorial Team.

Mike Shaw - 0121 686 2415 ***Vicky Pennicott - 0121 686 6523***

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MS HOMEPAGE

Due to the success in 2004

We are having another

"GRAND DRAW"

Tickets are on sale now. The draw will take place at our monthly meeting on Wednesday 1st November 2006

50p per ticket

1st Prize : A week of your choice at Brean caravan* in 2007

2nd prize : A week of your choice at Billing caravan* in 2007

Many other exciting prizes

.....

STOP PRESS

We are in discussions with "Ashley Blake" 'Midlands Today' & 'Inside Out' to hopefully come & draw the winning tickets on Nov 1st '06

CLIFTON ROAD CENTRE

The building work has now finished.
The car park fully available.
And now we're back to business as usual!

From Sept 4th

The MS centre is open as usual on Monday & Friday between 10.00am - 2.00pm



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING



MS Society Trip to

"Bletchley Park"

(The home of the Enigma Secret)

24th September '06.

Meet on Car Park opposite Plantsbrook School at 9.00am.

Return about 7.30 - 8.00pm

Costs to be in region of £10 - £15

Bring a packed lunch and sufficient drinks for the day.

A fully disabled accessible coach has been booked.

Further info from Jayne - **308 5641**

Don't Forget ....

"Skittles"

September 6th meeting

7.30 - 10.00



CARAVANS 2006

Bookings are now being taken for autumn 2006.

☎ 308 5641 or 354 8593

HOMEPAGE (CONTINUED)

From Front Cover

Frank and Hazel Kemp's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Frank, "a country boy", came from Limerick in Ireland and Hazel originated from Washwood Heath in Birmingham.

They both worked in local companies, Frank at IMI and Hazel at Lucas.

They met at a dance in Hurst Street Birmingham and were married in 1956.

They have 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

Frank and Hazel celebrated 50 years of marriage on a Mediterranean Cruise which took them to many European cities including Barcelona, Cannes and Rome.

ATTENTION ALL "MASTERMINDS"

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

Have a go yourself & see if you can sell some to friends.

ONLY £1.00

It all helps to raise funds for The Branch. Forms will be available at next month's meeting and at The Centre or Jayne

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Belated Birthday wishes to
GAIL CHARLTON for 5th June

AUGUST

1ST	JAYNE ROBINSON
2ND	MARIA SLATER
2ND	LES HALL
6TH	JENIFER JACK
13TH	STAN POVEY
16H	DEE DUNSTAN
18TH	CHRISTINE LATHAM
27TH	SUE BOND

SEPTEMBER

20TH	SHARON WALLIS

OCTOBER

11TH	BETINA TAYLOR
11TH	BELINDASTANLEY-HUGHES
24TH	MARIA BURLEIGH
26TH	ASHLEY JONES
27TH	LYNN SHAKESPEARE

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

LESLIE HALL

STAN POVEY

CRISTINE LATHAM

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY
SUTTON COLDFIELD & DISTRICT BRANCH

MONTHLY BRANCH MEETINGS

1st Wednesday of every month at 7.30 p.m.

Westfield Court Hotel

Birmingham Road, Sutton Coldfield

ADVICE & INFORMATION CENTRE

Monday and Friday 10.00am 'til 2.00pm

Clifton Road Youth Centre

Clifton Road

Sutton Coldfield

0121 354 8593

email :- suttonms@hotmail.com

Website : - www.mssociety.org.uk /branches/ west_midlands / sutton_coldfield/

COMMITTEE 2005-6

Officers

CHAIRMAN	Julie Leeson	0121 308 4089
SECRETARY	Sue Foster	0121 6861297
TREASURER	Jayne Robinson	0121 308 5641
SUPPORT	Ann Forbes	0121 384 3639

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Bulletin	Vicky Pennicott	0121 686 6523
Member	Pauline Commander	0121 382 1385
Member	Dee Dunstan	0121 686 6476
Member	Paul Dunstan	0121 686 6476
Member	Brent Morgan	0121 378 3636

CARAVANS

*Further to our article in our October issue of MiScellany.

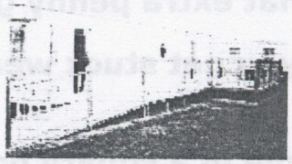
Caravan users are now known as "**PAMS**" = People Affected by MS or "**Others**" = Everyone else

WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Rates for PAMS*

UNITY FARM

August	BOOKED
September	190.00
October	190.00





Rates for Others*

UNITY FARM

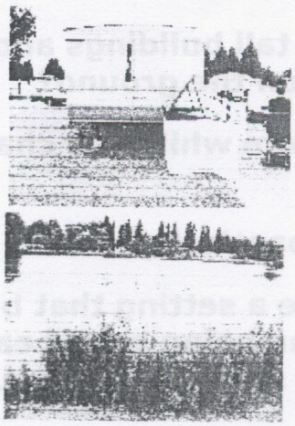
August	BOOKED
September	290.00
October	290.00

NORTHAMPTON

Rates for PAMS*

BILLING

August	100.00
September	90.00
October	90..00



Rates for Others*

BILLING

August	160.00
September	150.00
October	150.00

You expect to find the caravans in a very pleasant condition on your arrival. It has been brought to the attention of the committee that this is NOT happening. We appreciate that accidents do happen, so all we ask is for you try to resolve it yourself, otherwise TELL US on your return! Thank you.

Bookings can be made at The Clifton Road Centre **ONLY**

(see page 5 for opening times), where a deposit will be required.

For bookings contact Jayne 354 8593 (MS Centre) or 308 5641 (home)

Preference will be given to PAMS*

UNANSWERABLE QUESTIONS?

Can you cry under water?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to "put your two cents in".. but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's that extra penny going to?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway.

Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat? If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a stupid song about him?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride; he sticks his head out the window?

STEM CELLS

This is "The hot topic" in MS circles at the moment, and we are all very interested as to how it could affect us individually and as a group.

A little bit of investigation has revealed the following articles all taken from The MS Society's official website and MS Matters.

"Stem cell treatment now on sale"

Several companies are currently selling stem cell treatments. The MS Society has received many enquiries from people with MS asking whether they should pay to have stem cell treatment done. Although stem cell science is advancing rapidly, there is no scientific evidence as yet to support a stem cell treatment in humans to repair MS damage, and some types of stem cell treatment may be very hazardous.

The publicity for the bought treatments has raised peoples' hopes, but the MS Society advises people that no scientific data has verified the treatment that is on sale.

"Authorities investigate Stem cell treatment on sale"

Regulators in Holland are likely to investigate the clinic in Rotterdam that uses the stem cell treatment by the company *ACT.*

The MS Society has learned the Dutch Health Care Inspectorate will want to evaluate safety, the information given to patients, and the efficacy of the treatment.

The Dutch are also likely to extend their investigation to the Swiss laboratory providing the stem cells.

The Irish Medicines Board has now stopped these treatments in Ireland.

The Guardian newspaper has also learned that ACT took over the activities of a US company called *Biomark.* The two founders of *Biomark* are facing proceedings for distributing stem cell treatments without any basis in science, and for providing false and misleading information. A US official is quoted as saying the allegations are serious and will be prosecuted vigorously.

The actions of *Biomark* and *ACT* were also the focus of the recent BBC documentary called **"The Stem Cell Swindle"**.

MS Matters 66 has information on stem cell science in MS, and information on the treatment for sale. The Insight section in this issue summarizes information on stem cells from the MS Society's *MS Life* event in April '06.

STEM CELLS ... continued

The following articles are also taken from The MS Society's website

Current Stem Cell Research

Stem Cell research holds exciting possibilities.

The science is advancing rapidly, but is still in its very early stages. There is some way to go before these cells are fully understood and can be used to treat MS. but stem cell research in MS is making progress

The UK is at the forefront of world research into stem cells, and the MS Society is funding Professors Franklin and Scolding to carry out MS stem cell research in Cambridge and Bristol

Professor Robin Franklin

Professor Robin Franklin is Director of the MS Society Cambridge Centre for Myelin Repair and his main research interest is understanding how the brain's own stem and precursor cells contribute to remyelination. 'There is the real and achievable prospect that stem cells will enable us to repair damaged tissue in MS. That said, we are still in the very early days and much more work is needed. The prospects are too precious to damage them by rushing ahead too fast.'

Professor Neil Scolding

Professor Neil Scolding is researching how adult bone marrow stem cells differentiate to become neural cells and may be used in possible myelin repair treatments. 'Stem cells have been described as the "Holy Grail" of therapies, and I firmly believe they have enormous potential in MS. But trying to rush the science could bring a real danger of setting back research. The more measured approach will almost always end up the quickest route. Bet on the tortoise, not the hare!'

Article Taken from "THE SUN" Saturday July 22nd 2006

A new treatment has dramatically raised hopes of defeating multiple sclerosis. Researchers obtained spectacular results by combining drugs prescribed for cancer and MS.

MS degeneration was halted in 90% of cases. A few bedridden patients were able to walk again while others had their sight restored. Some who faced a lifetime of being seriously disabled, will now be able to work, travel and raise families.

Neurosurgeon Dr Mike Boggild said his team at Walton Neurological Centre in Liverpool were astounded by the results. He added: "*This halts the degeneration. The earlier we start treatment, the more chance people have of a normal life.*" MS victim Karen Ayres, 28, now back on her feet after being unable to walk, said: "It has given me my life back."

The drugs - Mitoxantrone and Copaxone - were tested on 27 patients over 5 years.

MS affects 85,000 UK sufferers.

Answers to "Confectionary, Sweetie & Snack Quiz" from June MiScellany

1. Eastern pleasure	TURKISH DELIGHT	26. Wobbly infants	JELLY BABIES
2. Goody goody	GUM DROPS	27. Alcohol -frozen many types	LICORICE ALLSORTS
3. Tiny jewels	MIDGET GEMS	28. Dark illusions	BLACK MAGIC
4. Top road	QUALITY STREET	29. Marriage brokers	MATCHMAKERS
5. Mutiny here	BOUNTY	30. Sweet feelings	SENSATIONS
6. Nine pins	SKITTLES	31. Ringo's tools	DRUMSTICKS
7. Fruity face parts	CHERRY LIPS	32. Little Devils?	IMPS
8. Grain sweetener	BARLEY SUGAR	33. Adore blood pumps	LOVE HEARTS
9. Porker favourites	TRUFFLES	34. Sweet rodents?	SUGAR MICE
10. Mouth shutters	GOB STOPPERS	35. Don't speak loudly	WISPA
11. Bad jokers?	MALTEASERS	36. Rockets get such a..	BOOST
12. Sweetened nuts	SUGARED ALMONDS	37. Giggles? Snigger?	SNICKERS
13. Melodies	TUNES	38. Spud slice - brittle	CRISPS
14. Two tiered	DOUBLE DECKER	39. Earlier than 10 pm	AFTER EIGHT
15. Choose, pinch	PICNIC	40. 1st place medals	ALL GOLD
16. Little prawns	SHRIMPS	41. American sweet interdental cleaner	CANDY FLOSS
17. 13th letter x2	M & M's	42. Made in Blackpool	ROCK
18. Well dressed folk	SMARTIES	43. Type of ham with purple flowers	PARMA VIOLETS
19. From outer space	FLYING SAUCERS	44. Spring holiday urges on	EASTER EGGS
20. —— plane	AERO	45. Scottish type of music	EDINBURGH ROCK
21. Girls toy mixed up	DOLLY MIXTURES	46. Cartoon dog and cat	RHUBARB AND CUSTSRD
22. Eg. Milky Way	GALAXY	47. Bees sounds with insects	HUMBUGS
23. Fruit falls	PEAR DROPS	48. Planet's drinking place	MARS BAR
24. English flowers	ROSES	49. Don't do this to an issue	TOPIC
25. From an Italian city	NEOPOLITANS	50. Double feline	KIT KAT

DIARY DATES 2006

Please do your best to come along. We'd love to see you.

Clifton Road Centre closed for the summer on 10th July '06

AUGUST

2nd	Natter night and Bingo	Westfield Court Hotel	7.30-10.00

SEPTEMBER

4th	**Clifton Road Centre Re-opens**		**10.00 - 2.00**
6th	***SKITTLES NIGHT***	Westfield Court Hotel	7.30-10.00
11th	Beautician-Jayne	Clifton Road Centre	10.00 - 2.00
24th	Day trip to Bletchley Park		

OCTOBER

4th	Games Night	Westfield Court Hotel	7.30-10.00
7th	Awareness Day	The Mall Sutton Coldfield	
9th	Beautician-Jayne	Clifton Road Centre	10.00 - 2.00