

Our speakers today are **Diane and Bilgin Arif** who will be giving us a talk about **Mercy Ships**. The charity deploys hospital ships and partners with African nations to transform surgical systems and provide free surgery to those most in need. We very much look forward to their talk.



April day out to the Aerospace Museum in Filton

Last month a party of our members enjoyed a lovely and interesting day out visiting the Aerospace Museum in Filton. The museum is well worth a visit as it highlights the great achievements of the aerospace industry in Bristol who were at the forefront of aeronautical and space technology breaking boundaries to create the fastest, biggest and the highest. The star attraction was of course the Concorde Alpha Foxtrot which is housed there. This was the last Concorde to be built and the last to fly.



Last month's charity donations

We were very pleased to raise **£73** towards our chosen charity from our cake stall last month. We also collected **£37** in donations for the charity **Hope GB** following the interesting talk from our speaker Sarah Robinson

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Special Fundraising Raffle

On sale today are the raffle tickets for the **Samsung Galaxy Tablet A7** which had been donated to us by Head Office. We very much hope that you will give your support. The tickets are **£5** per strip and all donations will be used toward our £500 annual charity donation.

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Letter from Angela Johnson, Fellowship Support Officer Wales

Following your AGM Gwent Branch, and questions raised on what the capitation fee is spent on, I have contacted our Chief Executive who has responded as follows.

Income and Expenditure

Membership income for 5,500 branch members and 2,000 national members at £30 each resulting in £225,000 membership income was boosted by £34,000 of gift aid to £259,000 so that the costs of the organisation continue to be met by the members.

We have now have a budget for 2024-25 which has been approved by the board. It shows total costs of £258,000 made up of:

- Salaries for the proposed new structure of £135,000 (Reduced from 2023-24)
- One-off re-organisation costs and legal fees of £24,000
- An increase from £18,000 to £28,000 for newsletter costs
- Travel, meetings and AGM costs increasing from £18,000 to £22,000
- All other costs increasing by 5% compared to this year.

In March 2024 the NHSRF received a grant of £50k from NHS England for the development of a new website, social media and office systems, all of which will enable better communication and generate additional savings. This grant cannot be used for core costs.

Welsh Conference

Whilst we would love to be able to offer this it ultimately comes down to cost and whether we can secure any external funding towards it.

Regular Communication from Chief Executive

This is part of the communication strategy once we have completed the restructuring programme of the organisation

And finally, your branch was interested in Wales numbers, here they are, numbers are changing but snap shot as at January 2024

Wales Branches	2024
	Members
Bangor NW	27
Cardiff & District SW	49
Clwyd NW	10
Gwent SW	71
N E Wales NW	31
W Glamorgan SW	15
	203

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TRIPS AND OUTINGS

WHEN BOOKING FOR ANY EVENT, PLEASE ADD ALL NAMES AND PICK-UP POINTS FOR EVERYONE INTENDING TO JOIN THE EVENT.

DARTS MATCH

WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY - NEWPORT INDOOR BOWLS AND SPORT CENTRE
 TIME – 12-00 HRS - BUFFET AND BAR COST £10 PAY TODAY
 PARTNERS WELCOME ESPECIALLY IF THEY PLAY. - NAMES TODAY PLEASE.

ANNUAL MYSTERY TRIP

THIS WILL BE THURSDAY 20TH JUNE. COST £20 - FINAL PAYMENT **MAY** MEETING PLEASE
 TIMES OF PICK-UP (depending on traffic)
 CWMBRAN 08-30 am
 NEWPORT 08-45 am
 CHEPSTOW 09-10 am APPROX

ABERGLASNEY GARDENS - MUSIC AND FOOD FESTIVAL

DATE SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
 COST £36 - PAYMENT AT JULY MEETING

CHRISTMAS OUTING - SWANSEA

CHOSEN BY MEMBERS

THIS HAS BEEN BOOKED FOR THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER
 PUT IT IN YOUR DIARIES DETAILS TO FOLLOW
 COST £17 - DETAILS NEARER THE DATE - PAYMENT NOVEMBER MEETING

Your Committee.

Chair	Lynda Evans	Raffle Organisers	Jen Martin
Vice Chair	<i>Vacancy</i>	Greeters	Cynthia Matthews
Secretary	<i>Vacancy</i>		Carol Cunnell
Treasurer	Denise Coldrick		Barbara Davies
Assistant Treasurer	Lilwyn Griffiths		Kay Davies
Speaker Secretary	Joanne Butler		
Membership Secretary	Ann Hyde		
Books/Sales/ Vote of thanks Coordinator	Pam E Jones		
Trips and outings	Delyn Hunt		
Welfare Officers	Caroline Pitt and Megan Williams		

Contact Information_

Chair	Lynda Evans	01633 420668	lyndaevs@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary			
Welfare Officers	Caroline Pitt Megan Williams	01633 660608 01633 420932	
Trips & outings	Delyn Hunt	01633 843140	delyn46@yahoo.co.uk

NHS Retirement Fellowship Benevolent Fund Sherry Smith, Admin Officer, Central Office. Tel 01305 361317,
www.nhsrf.org.uk