

[View this email in a browser](#)



# Volunteer update

Welcome to your monthly newsletter - keeping you updated with news relevant to all volunteers, as well as key group-specific news.



## General updates

  
**VOLUNTEERS'  
WEEK**  
40th Anniversary

**Celebrate Volunteers' Week with us**



**New appointments in Volunteering & Community Networks**

Find out how we'll be marking this special week and how you can get involved individually or as a group with our celebratory resources.

[Find out more](#) 

Join us in congratulating Emily on her new position as interim Head of V&CN, and welcoming Annabel as interim Policy & Performance Manager.

[Find out more](#) 



## Join us for Volunteer Voice


Our session on **Wednesday 22 May at 2pm** will be the usual chance to hear an organisational update and ask about anything that's on your mind. And to hear about the recent changes to our website.

[Register here](#) 



## Project Mead community research launch

We're working with an agency to better understand how our local support meets the needs of the MS community. They'll be contacting some of our volunteers in the coming weeks to gather information.

[Find out more](#) 

## MS in the UK – new figures coming


We've recently done some work to update our figures on the number of people in the UK living with MS, and how many are being newly diagnosed each year. We'll release the new statistics on **Wednesday 15 May**, when you'll be able to [find them](#)

[here on our website.](#)



## Stop MS Annual Lecture 2024


This year's lecture will be given by Professor ThÃ³ra KÃ¡iradÃ³ttir on **Thursday 6 June at 7.30pm.** Join us at the Royal Society in London, or watch the live stream on our YouTube channel.

[Find out more](#) 



## Key features of Assemble

We share some of the key features of Assemble, our new volunteer management system (VMS) launching later this year. Wherever we can, we've built the system to simplify processes our volunteers complete.

[Find out more](#) 



## Face-to-face fundraising is back


Following our successful pilot at the




## Have you spotted our digital billboards?

An agency with a connection to MS

end of last year, we'll be re-starting face-to-face fundraising with professional fundraisers later this month.

[Find out more](#) 

has generously offered us digital billboard space up to the value of £500,000 to use throughout 2024, at no cost!

[Find out more](#) 

## Other news...

**People of Birmingham, we need you!** Our new **MS Walk in Birmingham on 1 June** still has room for volunteers to help make it the best it can be. If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you. [Find out more here.](#)

**MS Awareness Week round up:** Find out about all we did to raise awareness of the realities of living with MS, during one week in April.



# Volunteering in action



## Volunteering with the MS Society has been truly incredible

Pat Poole volunteers as a member of our MS Research Network. She tells us about advising on projects



## Walking for my late wife, Moira

Gary's raised an incredible £31,000 doing walking challenges. He tells us about his 1,800 miles in 100 days

including Octopus, our groundbreaking new clinical trial.

[Read Pat's blog here](#) □

fundraiser and how he found support, strength and connection along the way.

[Read Gary's blog here](#) □

**\*\*\* If you'd like to share your own experiences of volunteering, please let us know by completing the [online form here](#) \*\*\***



## Updates for groups



### Gifts in wills left to our groups

It can be hard to comply with all the charity laws and regulations around receiving gifts left in wills. Our Legacy Team is here to help, and to remove any risks. Contact them as soon as you're notified of a gift.

[Find out more](#) □



### Support Volunteer Spring Forums

Find out what's new in MS Support, hear from Carers UK and the activity specialists on the MS Helpline, and enjoy some peer support. There are three sessions to choose from — on **21, 22 and 23 May**.

[Register here](#) □



## MS Society Designs is getting a new look!

To go with the MS Society's vibrant and accessible new brand, we've updated our MS Society Designs templates. We've also listened to your feedback to simplify the order process.

We'll be taking **a short break from now until 21 May** while we get things up and running. Orders placed during this time will be put on hold and will then be produced in the fresh new templates!

We'll tell you more about our new templates, and how to order your new group logo, in the June newsletter.

## This month's Top Tips!

Welcome to our 'Top Tips' section. Every month we'll share useful ideas and/or 'how to' hints to help you carry out your volunteering role.

---

The Portal holds the most up to date information we have for our volunteers and group contacts. If you notice that any details are incorrect or need updating, please email [volunteersupport@mssociety.org.uk](mailto:volunteersupport@mssociety.org.uk) and let us know. We'll make the amendments, which will then show on the Portal after a few days.

To assist with locating a particular contact, you can sort your lists on the Portal alphabetically, by clicking on the 'First Name' or 'Last Name' column headings (in orange).

## Local group donations

A continuing thank you to all our groups that have generously donated to support our research projects and UK-wide services.

[Find out more](#) 



# Events

## Events for all volunteers

**Volunteer Voice:** Wednesday 22 May at 2pm

**Virtual support events:** Information and skills sessions for different stages of the MS journey (including Staying Active with MS)

**Training troubleshooting session:** Various dates available

**2024 fundraising events calendar**

## Events for group volunteers

**Spring Support Volunteer Forum:** Tuesday 21 May at 10am, Wednesday 22 May at 2pm, Thursday 23 May at 11am

**Weekly drop-in with Volunteer Support Team:** Every Tuesday at 2pm

**Monthly Health and Safety drop-in:** First Tuesday of every month at 3pm

**Enthuse onboarding training:** Various dates available

**Monthly fundraising drop-in:** First Wednesday of every month at 2pm

Let's stop MS together



You're receiving this email because you're one of our volunteers.

You're subscribed as  
jo.webber@mssociety.org.uk

[Privacy & Cookie Notice](#)

Registered charity nos 1139257 / SC041990. Registered as a limited company in England and Wales 07451571