

# Isle of Wight Ataxia UK Support Group Newsletter

June 2007



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Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the Isle of Wight Ataxia U.K. Support group  
Newsletter

I hope everyone who attended the meeting at Arreton Barns found it  
informative and useful; it was wonderful of Tina Thatcher to come and

attend the meeting with us and advise us on how a support group works. As you all probably know the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2007 was the first ever ataxia support group meeting to be held on the Isle of Wight and there were 12 members present. I have received several leaflets and some e-mail information, which I shall bring to the next meeting to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 12:30 pm at Arreton Barns. If anyone has any information, questions or queries please bring them to the next meeting.

The following took place at our first meeting;

1. Members introduced each other and discussed various concerns.
2. Alan Reed is the named person as contact for the group. Alan has cerebellar ataxia type 6
3. We will send group contact details with a welcome letter to new potential members
4. We will keep an up to date members list which we will send to Tina once a year, or when it's updated.
5. Alan's 12 year old daughter, Amy will do a very simple newsletter that will go out to members and to Tina to circulate.
6. The members agreed to meet monthly.
7. Members agreed to make a small donation to cover any meeting costs and help with postage as some people do not have e-mail.
8. Members agreed to share contacted details for support
9. Data protection was discussed and explained
10. Benefit entitlement was explained

11. Ataxia clinics, fundraising, GP leaflets and the annual conference were discussed.

12. The network and the differences between a branch and a support group were also talked about.

13. Two health professionals attended.

14. Three people requested info packs to join Ataxia UK

15. Insurance info was requested.

**Thank you to all involved for your support, effort and information. I look forward to seeing you all at Arreton Barns on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 12.30pm.**