

IA Northern Ireland

NEWSLETTER September 2020

2020 Subscriptions

Subscriptions are still £15 (or £10 for those over 60) and should National Office have already contacted you or contact you in the future regarding subscriptions, cheques should be made payable to IA and posted to:

IA National Office

35-37 West Street

Rochford, Essex

SS4 1BE

Please put your name, address and postcode on the back of the cheque (so National Office can identify which member organisation you belong to)

OR, you may wish to renew online at www.iasupport.org

Special Birthday & Get Well cards

These cards are currently sent out to members but we can only send Get Well cards to those members that we know about. If you hear of a member who is ill perhaps you could let me know - contact details are at the end of the Newsletter. Thank you.

Dear Members – Autumn Meeting

Due to the uncertainty regarding Covid 19 and having taken advice, it has been decided, with regret, that the Autumn meeting which was to be held on Saturday 26th September 2020 will **not** now take place. We still hope to hold a meeting on 5th December 2020 at Riddel Hall, but as you will appreciate nothing can be certain in these times and further details and information will be sent to you when matters become clearer.

Fiona Wilson 1966 – 2020

It is with great sadness that we record the death of our former treasurer, and good friend to IA locally, Fiona Wilson.

Fiona joined IA Northern Ireland in 1998 and was elected treasurer of IA Northern Ireland in 2008, a position she held until February 2020. Fiona was also a long-standing volunteer visitor for IA Northern Ireland; she helped many people come to terms with having an internal pouch and also was a frequent helper at open days and members' meetings all over Northern Ireland.

Fiona was held in great fondness and high esteem by her fellow committee members and the many IA Northern Ireland members that she dealt with. She worked tirelessly behind the scenes ensuring the finances of IA Northern Ireland were accurate, organised, up to date and compliant with the ever-changing fiscal rules as well as working with the Charity Commission during the recent transition to branch status. Though never seeking the limelight, her advice on and guidance in IA matters was always professional and thoughtful. Fiona radiated calmness, had a quiet sense of humour and was always willing to help out and take on responsibility. She was friendly, kind and considerate and a truly lovely human being.

Fiona bravely endured a rapid deterioration in health, before passing away peacefully at home at the end of June. IA Northern Ireland would like to express sincere condolences to her husband Terry and all her family. It was a privilege to have known Fiona and we will miss her greatly.

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Ileostomy & Internal Pouch
Association

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Registered Charity: 1172338 (England and Wales) and SC048658 (Scotland)

Items for Newsletter

Unfortunately there is not a great deal of news around at the moment to impart to you in the Newsletters. However, if any of you have been doing anything interesting during these past months and would like to share it with us, please do let me know so I can maybe include it in future Newsletters.

Local Promotion

IA are currently considering putting together a new campaign online and in the Journal to help promote more of all the Member Organisations and would like to feature each of the member groups over the coming weeks and months. They would like, if IA Northern Ireland wish to be included in the campaign, to hear of ONE THING that is great about our group.

As such, IA Northern Ireland would therefore first like to hear from you something that you feel is good about our branch or what it has done. The committee will consider any feedback received and take matters forward if appropriate. Please email me with any comments you have on IA Northern Ireland. – my contact details are at the end of the Newsletter.

Face Masks

To help members IA national office has had produced a number of “IAmStrong” facemasks. These are made of 3 layers including a filtering layer and are washable.

Masks have to be ordered online at the following link;

<https://iasupport.org/facemask/> and are available on a first come, first served basis, with one face mask available per paid up member (while stocks last).

Coronavirus (Covid-19) update

The Ileostomy and Internal Pouch Association is aware of concerns Coronavirus might raise for people with an ileostomy or internal pouch and is continuously monitoring the situation, taking guidance from Public Health England. Further advice and information including “Frequently asked questions” can be found on its website:

<https://iasupport.org>

Visiting

Since the next meeting is postponed, if anyone feels they would benefit from a chat with someone, please let me know (contact details at end of Newsletter) and I will pass it on to our visiting co-ordinator.

Jenny McMillen

Hon Secretary Tel: 028 9303 8063 e-mail: nireland@iasupport.org
(See <https://nireland.iasupport.org> for further information.